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SPINK COUNTY IN THE MAKING

by

DANA D. HARLOW

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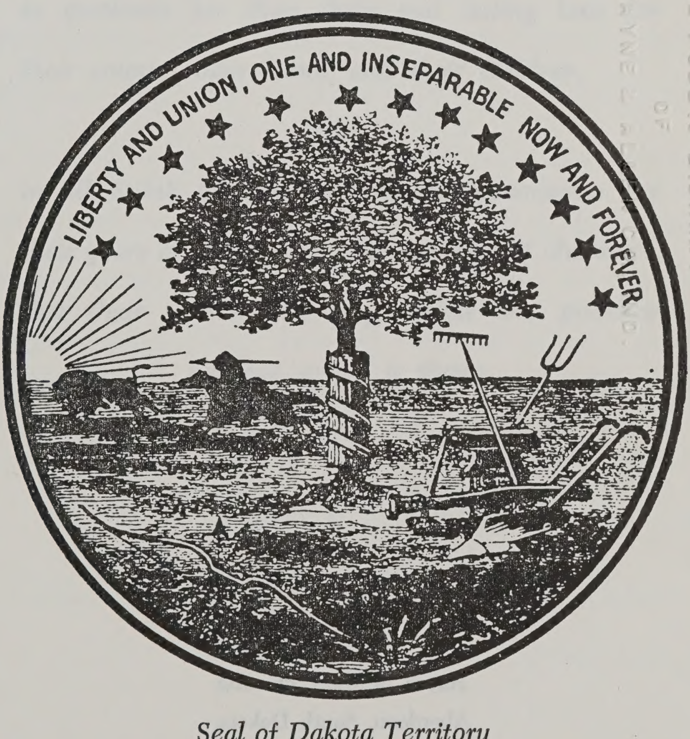
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Seal of Dakota Territory

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With Pride

I dedicate this Book

to

my father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Harlow,
in gratitude for their deep and lasting love for
their county, their home, and their children,

and

to all Spink County pioneers in recompense for
their years of toil and for their nobility of character,
that their descendants may realize the priceless
heritage which is theirs.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My greatest debt in the writing of this History is to Miss Leta James of Bonilla, who assisted me in the assembling of the material; to Miss Mary Lindsay, of Redfield, for her typing of the entire book; to Mrs. E. L. Schultz, for her enthusiastic helpfulness in acquiring information; to Mrs. Myrtle Tollefson, for her excellent suggestions, and the compiling of the bibliography; to Mrs. Harry Bailey, for contacting pioneers, and for continuing the historical help given me by her brother, the late William F. Bruell; to Reverend John Sheild, for preparing the county church histories; to Mr. J. B. Heinmiller, of Frankfort, for his work on the schools of the county; to Mr. Claire Houseman, of Aberdeen, for his historical documents; to Mr. Robert S. Sampson, of Redfield, who wrote the chapter on Spink County Agriculture; and to my father, the late Mr. J. P. Harlow, who, having lived in Spink County for seventy years, had accumulated valuable historical material, which I have used freely in the writing of this History, and to the many, many people of Spink County, and elsewhere, who have given such wholehearted cooperation in providing the information needed for this volume.

Without their generous and valuable assistance, this book could not have been written.

PREFACE

For the most part, this book pictures Spink County in the late Eighteen Seventies to the early Nineteen Hundreds. I have not tried to write a comprehensive history even for those years. Instead, I have hoped to keep alive the names of the pioneers who settled in Spink County, and to show the hardships, the privations, and failures these people endured that their descendants might succeed and live in a land which they had tilled and beautified by their planting of trees, on an almost treeless prairie.

Much of this material I have taken from that gathered and written by my pioneer father, Mr. J. P. Harlow, and from my Master's Thesis, Place Names of Spink County, written in 1944.

May the ambition, the courage, the integrity and the love of their land shown by these Spink County pioneers be forever a part of their descendants.

Redfield, South Dakota

Dana D. Harlow

June 3, 1961

FOREWORD

By

Leta James

Life is ever an on-going process in continuity. Since it is endless the blocks of time we use to define it give a fragmentary picture, but those fragments are full of color and drama.

The past says: "I know; I was there; I dreamed; and hoped, and despaired. I learned when to hold on and when to let go. Experience has its price, but it has its reward – it knows it is the truth."

Strong and warm are the ties of memory and it is with a sense of gratitude that this record is made of the deeds and hopes of Spink County pioneers.

That their descendants may keep alive the aims envisioned by our Territorial emblem – the moving forward to the new – the preserving of the values of the old – the bringing of usefulness and beauty as symbolized by the plow and tree, we have wished to recall these memories.

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JUST A CENTURY AGO

Chapter One

Spink County, in the north central part of South Dakota, has a slightly rolling terrain in certain areas, but is for the most part level in nature. A heavy black loam is characteristic of the soil of the region. The area is drained by the James River which flows through the county from north to south. Turtle Creek, a tributary, rises in Hand county and runs northeast to join the James River. Snake Creek, rising in Faulk county, runs east to the James River. Foster Creek rises in west Clark county and runs southwest to meet the James River, in Beadle county. Dry Run, in south Brown county, flows south to the James River, and Mud Creek which rises in Brown county empties into the James River in Spink county. Timber Creek rises in the Clark Hills of Clark county and flows southwest through Spink county, and empties into the James River. Wolf Creek flows from Hand county into Turtle Creek in Buffalo Township, in the southwest part of the county.

Spink County has four natural lakes, the largest of which is Cottonwood Lake, located on a portion of the following sections: 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, and 18 in Lake Township. Twin Lakes covers part of Sections 8, 9, 10, 15 and 16, in Tulare Township. Price Lake is located upon sections 31 and 32 in Northville Township, and Alkali Lake on Section 5, Northville Township.

The county also has three man-made lakes, Lake Redfield on Sections 8 and 9, in Redfield Township; Lake Dudley on Sections 20 and 21, in Cornwall Township, and Mirage Lake on Section 7 in Capitola Township and Section 12 in Harrison Township.

Centrally located in the James River Valley, Spink County is equidistant between the Minnesota line and the Missouri River, at the point where the great Coteaus of the Missouri and the James River make their nearest approach to each other. These Coteaus sweep in two great semicircles, with their convex sides facing each other through the county, and at Redfield approach within about eight miles of each other. They are connected here by a ridge, in the form of a vast moraine some two miles in width. North of this ridge lies a great basin extending fifty miles or more, and widening gradually; and to the south of it extends a similar one toward Beadle County, both of which were once the beds of fresh water lakes, which have been drained by the cuttings of the James River, in a manner precisely similar to the work done in the valley of the Missouri on a grander scale."

The James River, locally referred to as the "Jim", and officially christened the Dakotah, though seldom called that, is over five hundred miles long, and has sometimes been called the longest unnavigable river in the world. (It has been navigable at points, however.)

R. J. Holland, in his Pioneer History of Northville, stated that during the summer of 1861 soldiers were sent into what is now the Northville neighborhood concerning matters relating to the Indians. While there, two members of the party died. A stone on the east bank of Snake Creek, north of the first bridge west of Northville, was marked with their initials in commemoration. Because of the drought conditions, the Indians had left the region to find grass for their ponies. Evidences of this long drought were apparent at Lake Kampeska and Lake Traverse where trees grew to be one foot or more in diameter. The stumps of these trees stood out in the waters of the lakes for many years.

The Andreas Atlas of Dakota, 1884, points out that Dakota Territory of which Spink County was a portion, was once a part of the Louisiana Purchase; was then ceded to Spain, then to France, and then to the United States. It was once a part of Missouri Territory, and was sometimes called Mandan Territory. It was annexed to Indiana Territory in 1804, again made a part of Louisiana Territory, then part of Michigan Territory, Wisconsin Territory, Minnesota Territory, and a part of it was once in Nebraska Territory; hence the history of the region has been varied, to say the least.

Grace E. Taylor Sanden, describing the early period in this region, says: "Prior to the time of settlement in the '80's, the history of this area could be roughly drafted thus: (1) Great Glacier; (2) The period of manmoth animals that raged in battle with one another; (3) Temperate climate and the coming of the Red Man; (4) Indians and buffalo roaming the great prairie. Tribes forming to protect their hunting grounds; (5) French fur traders.

The fur hunters kept pushing forward and setting their traps along the streams and rivers. The Indians had campgrounds on Three Rivers and up the James to Armadale.

Arrows have been found throughout Jefferson township, together with other relics in proof of this. The angling Indian trails were deep and were used by the white man later until civilization squared them.

In 1839, John C. Fremont was building a reputation for bravery and he was sent by the government to map Dakota Territory. Doubtless Spink County was a part of this survey.

The great financial crash in the East during 1857, and General Harney's victory over the Sioux the year before, was bringing much unrest.

When gold was discovered and the white people ventured into Indian Territory, the delegates from all the tribes gathered at the first Indian Capitol and traversed this ground many times, going to and from the Council Stone, and praying to the great White Father to save them. They were still wrapping and hanging their dead in the trees, making and poisoning their arrow heads for conflict, and war dancing. They had gone through the white man's diseases of yellow fever and smallpox, with a heavy loss of warriors, and now in 1859 they were mystified by the potato bug.

March 2, 1861 was a memorable day for the whole country, but it was most disturbing to the Indians, because fur trading was being forced to give way to white settlement.

"No taxes were collected for several years, and little regard was given to county organization," Herbert Schell tells us in "The Evolution of a Commonwealth." There were no organized schools prior to 1865.

In 1865 a public school system was organized, the credit for which must be given to James S. Foster, the first Superintendent of Public Instruction."

"After 1868, there was a decade of steady growth. In addition, there was a heavy influx of Norwegians and Swedes to increase the population. The construction of the Dakota Southern railway from Sioux City to Yankton was the chief factor in material progress. Recurring grasshopper devastation again interrupted progress in 1874, 1876, and 1877.

"The years 1878 to 1886 were known as the Great Dakota Boom. Between 1880 and 1885 the population of this section increased from 82,000 to 249,000.

Several factors stimulated the boom. First in importance was the liberal land policy which gave advantage to homesteaders and speculators alike. The pre-emption and timber culture laws were of more doubtful value than the Homestead Act in promoting community growth, and were later repealed for this reason. A second major influence was wielded by the railway builders who in 1879 began to gridiron the area east of the Missouri with their lines. Without the Iron Horse, central Dakota could not have been developed.

The favorable climatic condition of the period comprises a third factor of significance. The supply of moisture was above the average after the heavy snow of 1880-1881. This caused floods in the spring. The recurrence of dry years after 1886 brought the Dakota boom to an end and necessitated agricultural readjustment.

A contributory factor in the boom of the eighties was the publicity and promotion sponsored by governmental agencies, railroads, townsite promoters, and other boosters. From 1869 to 1877 the territorial government had kept an immigration bureau to promote migration from eastern states and European countries. This office was revived in 1885 and was continued until statehood.

Most effective in directing settlers to Dakota were the railroads, which through their loan departments offered inducements to prospective homesteaders. They had constructed their lines into the territory in advance of settlements and had a material interest or stake.

"The introduction of hard wheat and the rise of the milling industry in Minneapolis and St. Paul made the north central counties a part of the leading wheat region in the country. Towns sprang up over night, and their mushroom growth engendered townsite rivalries.

Aspirations ran high during this period. Every community was judged to be a potential metropolis. Schools and churches were organized, newspapers started, and local industries encouraged. Many dreams were not realized but the sincerity and intensity of purpose and the assiduous industry stood South Dakota in good stead. Her foundations were firmly built.

A set back (temporarily) was suffered (1886-1887.) A decline of rainfall spelled defeat for many. The worst droughts occurred in 1889 and 1894. The Panic of 1893 affected western states.

Agriculture suffered from a falling price level which resulted in a reduced farm income. As a result, a sharp decline in population in counties between the James and Missouri occurred.

By the time of statehood, transportation was improved and had lost its frontier character. The steamboat had passed out of existence, giving way to the railway service. The steamboat played only a small part in the agricultural development of South Dakota. From the beginning, Dakota settlers sought railway connections.

South Dakota elected as its first Governor, Arthur C. Mellette, who had also been the last Territorial Governor. The capital question became a burning issue with many towns, including Redfield, competing. Pierre became the temporary capital in 1889 and permanent capital in 1890.

Economic adversity hampered material progress during the first decade of statehood. Additional reservation lands were made available in 1892 under an agreement made in 1889 with the Sisseton Indians who sold their surplus lands to the government.

Economic conditions improved after 1900. The price level was curving upward, weather conditions were more favorable. The introduction and adoption of drought resistant plants like alfalfa and durum wheat were a boon to agriculture."

Arthur E. Towne, in his book "Old Prairie Days", observes that the settling of the Dakota prairies was one of the tremendous incidents of our country. Reviewing the period, he says, "The spirit of adventure lured many who hunted buffalo, trapped beaver. Buffalo hides were worth five dollars each, and hunters returned home with two and three thousand dollars in their pockets.

Stony hillsides of New England states yielded little for farmers' work. Rich valleys of New York through Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, were high in price. It took a lifetime to get a start there. Industries were crowded and Americans were being replaced by cheap foreign labor.

Thousands of Civil War veterans had not established themselves. There was a growing surplus of population of old settled communities which did not have enough jobs to go around. Economic conditions had thus created a vast reservoir of ambitious men and women looking for a chance to make a start in life. Here were the rich prairie lands which Uncle Sam was literally giving away to bonafide settlers — venturesome ones who had gone forth a few years before and made more money in a few wheat fields than their fathers had in a lifetime.

The West drew the land hungry like a magnet. The first trickle of emigration swelled with hundreds and thousands. Everywhere the railroads were running excursions to the West. A poster in the Towne General Store in Woodbury Center, Vt., advised: "Go West — Tree farms in the great wheat belt — Prosperity in a few years — Streams crowded with fish, deer and antelope still range the claims — Chance of a lifetime."

The "western fever" raged everywhere.

Never was there a more motley crowd assembled than could be seen on the construction gangs building the roadbeds, because anyone could get a job and the wages were good. There were graduates from eastern colleges, medical and law schools, tramps, adventurers, men from Germany, Scandinavian Peninsula, lumber jacks from Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Canada, and many others who were looking for a means of earning extra money to help start on their prairie farms. Eager settlers swarmed on passenger trains, and long freight trains loaded with emigrant movables arrived every day. There were strings of prairie schooners, drawn by horses, mules, and oxen, and even a few hardy souls walking and moving their meager effects in pushcarts. Some were farm families ruined by grasshopper scourge, coming west to make a fresh start.

Hundreds of quarter sections of land were being taken up. Sod houses and board shanties were springing up everywhere over night. Others were living in dugouts and even tents. Plowed fields were increasing and corn was sprouting on hundreds of acres of new land. There was a demand for breaking plows, saws, and hammers.

Some sold their quarter sections for $3,000.00 or $4,000.00, and went to another district and started again on a prairie farm. The law did not allow a man to take up more than three quarter sections.

A person could take three claims as they were called; a homestead, a pre-emption, and a tree claim, each one-half mile square, making 480 acres. To a man who had farmed on a worn-out forty or eighty acres in the East, and eked out a bare existence, this was prosperity handed to him on these wonderful prairies where there were no stones, no woods, no stumps to be pulled out. The fertility of the soil was beyond comprehension of an eastern farmer.

The land-hungry crowd came from every eastern state, rushed for choice locations, speculating in town lots and claims. People accustomed to comforts adjusted to pioneering. While some prospered, others who guessed wrong as to future of towns, or were caught by dry summers and hot winds found themselves reduced to poverty.

1881-1882 was an open winter; the only severe weather was a three-day blizzard in March. There was a rush to the prairie lands in the spring of 1882. Shanties were going up and prairie schooners bringing settlers from drought-scorched, grasshopper-scouraged Kansas and Nebraska. They were growing corn, potatoes and root crops, and breaking sod to mellow it for the next year's grain crops. Settlers were hurrying to Minnesota to buy work oxen because the oxen cost less than horses and could stand the gruelling work of breaking the virgin prairies better than horses, and the upkeep was less.

Most of the immigrants were pleasant homey folk, few were drunken and quarrelsome.

The summer of 1882 was busy and bustling, everyone working early and late, getting established and putting in as large an acreage as possible. In August, beautiful cornfields flourished.

In 1882-1883 there was a cold winter and a delightful spring. In the summer of 1883 the prairies west of Redfield were covered with buffalo grass.

Mounted men galloped over prairies in a mad rush to grab scattered claims before all were gone, and rode all night to reach the new land office in Huron, standing in line all the next day to file on their claims.

By mid-summer settlers came from Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, with money ready to buy desirable claims for cash.

By the fall of 1882 schoolhouses began to dot the landscape. Church societies were organized, and circuit riders or missionary ministers, as they were called, began to make their rounds. Their circuit was so large that only at intervals was it possible for them to visit an individual community.

In the spring of 1883, the weather conditions were good. Dryness in May was followed by abundant rains in June, and the wheat and oats were wagon-wheel high. The corn looked promising. July weather was sultry and favorable for crops. The demand for twine binders was tremendous. Then, on July 22, came the hailstorm from the northwest accompanied by high winds. It smashed windows. Cattle were knocked down by the large stones and horses were terrorized. Hail fell in such quantities that it lay in heaps and didn't melt until the following day. West of Irving, it reached a depth of sixteen inches. Livestock were not killed, but were groggy and bleeding from cuts. Crops, however, were pulverized. Cornfields were stripped of leaves and scattered. Wheat fields were lodged and ruined. This was the end of the dream of prosperity on a prairie farm for many who had ventured their last dollar and lost. They loaded their prairie schooners and departed, leaving what they could not move, to their creditors. Some who stayed had enough to pay taxes. A whole year's work was gone for nought. The hail had swept the valley for a distance of fifteen miles in width and forty miles in length. Elsewhere crops were good.

Five days later, a second hail storm came. It rained in torrents and hailed as it had five days before. The average hailstones were eight and one-fourth inches in circumference. Four weeks later, grasshoppers passed over the region for hours, going north. No-one was able to offer an explanation of this.

The rosy dreams cherished by settlers to get rich quick faded by the spring of 1884. When men who had recklessly mortgaged farms to buy farm machinery and work horses, discovered that the bumper crops they had expected were not forthcoming, they were disillusioned. The region was semi-arid; drought and hot winds were frequent; the result was short crops and total failures. At times the price of wheat was so low as to leave little profit for the grower. No. 1 hard wheat was 50¢ a bushel, and No. 2 46¢ to 48¢. In the spring of 1884, crops were good. During the winter of 1885 there was heavy snow and it was intensely cold, sometimes 40 degrees below zero, and there were sundogs and half rainbows glistening in the frosty air at one and the same time.

During the spring of 1885 there was sufficient rainfall, and large acreage was planted. In June, there was a sea of waving grain, but on a hot muggy day with intense heat and not a breath of air, a tornado swirled over the region with a terrific roar of wind and thunder, and destroyed a bumper harvest and splendid corn crop in a matter of twenty minutes.

The fall of 1886 was favorable for farm work, but the winter set in with great severity. At this time many departed in covered wagons and drove their cattle and flocks before them. They were gone before the banks and farm implement dealers discovered it. Lawless ones raided abandoned farmsteads. Others stayed and cleared their debts before leaving.

The next summer there was a magnificent crop but the price of wheat had fallen. Despite this, a fever of speculation struck the county. Many started buying farm machinery and land. The following winter was a bad one, but spring came early in 1887.

The weather was mild in January of 1888. The wheat crops were poor in 1889 and also in 1890. Hard wheat, the best, brought 50¢ a bushel.

The winter of 1890-91 was an open one with little snow, and chinook winds which quickly melted it. There were days in January and February when people went out on the prairie without wraps. Cattle ranged out every day on abundant buffalo grass.

In March, the good weather changed. Snow and colder temperatures arrived, and with it a blizzard that was almost as severe as the one in 1888. It was of short duration, and spring arrived early. The season was poor, however, because of the infrequent and insufficient rainfall and the hot winds in July. Wheat averaged six bushels per acre, and then went to $1.56 per bushel.

During the winter of 1891 and 1892 much snow fell. Spring drifted in mildly and leisurely. Farmers sang as they planted their fields. Dakotans are amazingly cheerful and buoyant of spirit; the pure bracing air of the prairies and glorious sunshine contribute to this."

PRAIRIE PROGRESS

Chapter Two

The origin of Spink county dates back to 1873 when the Legislature set up boundaries for various counties in Dakota differently than they are at the present time. Spink county then embraced only the south part of its present limits. The north half of the county and a part of Brown couny were called Thompson county.

In 1879 a bill was passed fixing the boundaries of all the counties in this vicinity as they exist today.

Spink County was named for Solomon L. Spink, second secretary of state of Dakota Territory, 1865-1869, and the third delegate to Congress 1860-1871. Mr. Spink was born in Whitehall, New York, March 20, 1839, and was a lawyer and editor. He practiced law at Yankton after returning from Congress, and died in 1881.

In 1875 M. T. Wooley headed a surveying party which attempted to survey that part of Dakota, now known as Spink county, but was deterred by seventy-five warriors from the camp of Drifting Goose, and abandoned the contract.

In 1877, Tom Marshall and his crew of surveyors again undertook the task of surveying that part of Spink County occupied by Drifting Goose. The Indians protested daily, and finally surprised and captured the flag man. Z. T. Sutley, who was divested of his clothing and boots and started in the direction of the camp on a hot July day. Finally a conference was held with Drifting Goose, the pipe of peace was smoked, and gifts were given to the Indians, and the men resumed their work.

In 1879 Frank S. Myers and a party of Chicago & Northwestern surveyors came from the south, surveying a portion of Spink County, and by the close of 1879 most of the county had been surveyed with the exception of some townships in the western part of the county which were not open to settlement until 1880 or 1881.

The first settlements in Spink county were made during the autumn of 1878. They were made at points on the James River, about five miles north east of Old Ashton, the first county seat. These people were probably the first white men to set foot in Spink County with the view of settlement, in addition to W. C. Smart, who was employed in the government survey in 1875-77.

Mr. Smart was later at the head of the Boston Colony which settled in the county in the winter of 1878-79. In the summer of 1878 he had recruited a company in Boston composed of forty-nine persons whom he sought to bring through to Yankton by immigrant cars. Those who finally arrived in Spink county were: W. C. Smart, Joseph Mockett, C. Blaisdell, James Fox, John D. Larrabee, L. J. Bancroft, M. Corporun, and Mrs. Barnes and two children.

Upon arrival they discovered that George Bowman, his brother, S. W. Bowman, and E. S. Weikland had arrived in September, 1878, and had secured the location they desired. However, they soon found out that good claims were to be had, and they became good friends. These pioneers, together with H. P. Packard, James Kerr, and James Churchill established themselves on Section 30, Township 117, Range 63, in the spring of 1879, and W. F. Becker settled on Section 31 during that summer. James Coolidge, the first elected register of deeds in the county, Horatio and Ichabod Atwater and J. P. Lang located in late April on Timber Creek in Townships 116 and 117, Range 61, eight miles east of the James River.

The Albert Lea Colony arrived April 23 of that year. Their executive officers were: J. R. Chalmers, president, S. N. Sherwin, secretary, and Oliver Jay Larkin, and James Coolidge.

The following persons, it appears, spent the winter of 1879-80 in Spink county: James B. Churchill, C. B. Foster, J. S. Bingley, W. H. Hedges and family, Christopher Wynn and family, Thomas Farmer and family, including Mrs. Skinner, the mother of Mrs. Farmer, Neil McNab and family, Louis Kniesel, Levy Lincoln and family, Jeff Lower and family, George H. Small and family, M. C. Harlow, J. P. Harlow, O. E. Childs and family, Frank Beardsley, Roswell Bottum, John Clifford, Zing Robinson, E. F. Beaumont and family, John Ward and family, Henry Kurtz and family, Charles Baker and family, W. C. Smart, Arlington Savin, George Bowman, L. J. Bancroft and family, John Larabee and family, Henry Sparling and family, Charles Sampson and wife, Melvin Starr and mother, Fred W. Rogers and wife, Albert Adrews, S. F. Hammond and family, Charles Andrews and family, Charles Beardemphl, C. D. Bradley, and family, Al Draper, Charles Simmons, George Draper, D. N. Hunt and family, and George Beetem and family.

In May, 1879 Frank Beardsley, Roswell Bottum and A. Stanley Hall settled along the James River between Ashton and Redfield, James Worden made settlement in October, 1879 as did M. C. Harlow and J. P. Harlow of Chilton, Wisconsin, who settled nine miles northeast of Frankfort.

The county was organized by Governor Wm. A. Howard on July 22, 1879. Commissions were issued to George M. Bowman, Charles B. Foster, and Wm. Smart, to act as county commissioners, but Mr. Smart declined to serve. At the first meeting of the board at the Louis Kneisel home on August 7, 1879, J. B. Churchill was selected as the third commissioner, and Mr. Bowman was made chairman. At this same meeting the following officers were appointed to act until the first general election in the fall of 1880: J. S. Bingley, Register of Deeds; Louis Kneisel, Sheriff; Daniel McNab, Jr., Assessor and Probate Judge; W. H. Hedges, Surveyor and County Superintendent of Schools; Roswell Bottum, Treasurer; Frank Beardsley, Coroner; C. B. Foster, L. J. Bancroft, Melvin Starr and Frank Beardsley, Justices; Calvin Jones, John Ray, Charles Barber, Constables. At this meeting they also established the county seat at what was known as Old Ashton, but was then described by government divisions as the south half of Section 30, Township 117, Range 63.

The first Judge was Seward Smith. The first term of court in the county was held at Old Ashton, September 9, 1884. The first case tried was between Samuel Bowman and Charles Beardemphl.

In October, 1879, the first school board was organized in the county. D. N. Hunt was chairman of the board.

The first school in the county was opened in July, 1880, in a building costing $1300.00, with Miss Florence Hall, later Mrs. C. G. Bickford of Redfield, as the teacher. Her salary was $21.40 per month. The pupils were: Mrs. John E. Hipple, nee Bowman; Charles and Willie Sweet; Robert Runser; George Draper; William Baker; Mrs. W. S. Billinghurst, nee Bowman; Lucy Tubbs, nee Potts; Mrs. J. Stanton, nee Runser. The second term was taught by Georgia Ellis, later Mrs. A. T. Dikeman.

About this time church services were begun at Old Ashton, conducted by Reverend Rogers. Later services were held in Redfield with Reverend Rogers serving both communities Reverend E. H. Alden also held services at Old Ashton. In 1881 the Congregationalists built a church in Redfield.

The first Fourth of July celebration was held in Fisher's Grove in 1880. The next year it was celebrated at Redfield with Adjutant General S. J. Conklin as orator.

Early settlers opposed the saloon. The first one appeared in 1880, but through the efforts of J. S. Huston, it was permitted to remain in the town just one week, and for years thereafter the county was without a saloon.

The first child born in Spink county was Francis Beetem on January 23, 1880.

The first marriage was that of Robert M. Love and Anna Whitman, on November 23, 1879, by C. B. Foster, Justice of the peace.

In 1880, the assessed valuation of real property in Old Ashton was $1150.00, and of personal property, $19,000.00.

In the fall of 1888, the county treasurer, C. G. Winchell, defaulted to the extent of many thousands of dollars, and left the county. The first intimation of this came in a letter to his deputy, W. C. Kiser.

D. N. Hunt completed the first homestead final proof in the county.

The first railway in the county was built by the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company from Huron to Redfield in the spring of 1881.

In March (or January), 1882, the first board of trade was organized in the county. It was located at Redfield with E. W. Foster, President: C. H. Myers, Vice-President: P. H. Monroe, Treasurer; and F. A. Dawes, Secretary.

In the spring of 1883 fourteen people lost their lives by claim-jumping in the James River Valley.

In 1880 the following were the only people assessed as owners of real estate in Spink County: Jordan Johnson, Phoebe Gray, Doris Thomas, Jacob Nelson, Eliza Henderson, John Johnson, William Getson, George Ryan, Sam Smith, Albert Lea Agriculture Company, C. H. Myers, and E. H. Alden. At that time the assessed valuation of the county was approximately $19,000.00.

In 1885 occurred the first township organizations.

The settlers of Spink County were principally from Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

In the election of 1880 the first contest for the county seat occurred. The results were: Redfield 94, Frankfort 62, Ashton 24, Old Ashton 8. This was the beginning of the county seat war between Redfield and Ashton which lasted six years.

Since Old Ashton refused to relinquish the county seat to Redfield, another election was held in 1884, at which more votes were cast than there were people in the county. Later the records were stolen from the Old Ashton courthouse and taken to Redfield. The next day about 1500 people from Old Ashton, Mellette, Frankfort and Doland assembled at Redfield demanding the records. Violence was averted by an injunction obtained from a court in Milbank.

In 1886 Redfield won the county seat in a legitimate election.

The first courthouse for Spink county was erected in 1879 on the hill near the James River on the south half of Section 30, Township 117, Range 63. During the first year, bills amounting to $950.00 were allowed, mostly for supplies. E. H. Alden received the first money paid by the county. Old Ashton was located as the first county seat of Spink County, May 13, 1879.

In addition to Redfield, other settlements in the county in 1880-81 were Belcher's Ford, Old Ashton, Clyde and Foster City.

At a meeting held November 24, 1880, the county was divided into three voting precincts. The store of Foster and Love at Armadale (Foster City) polling place for district No. 1; the county office at Ashton for District No. 2; and Belcher's Ford for district No. 3. At the first election in Spink county, in the fall of 1880 96 votes were cast at Old Ashton, 33 at Foster City (Armadale) and 116 at Belcher's Ford.

The following persons were elected: F. I. Fisher, Member of the legislature; M. J. Starr, County Assessor; Daniel McNab, Jr., Judge of Probate; C. W. Andrews, County Treasurer; P. S. Cook, Superintendent of Schools; Frank Beardsley, Coroner; William Poulton, Theodore Lauer, D. P. Wilsey, and John Land, Constables; Horatio Atwater, C. B. Foster, John Walker and D. H. Reader, Justices of the Peace; James Cooledge, Register of Deeds, and County Clerk; Louis Kneisel, Sheriff; C. H. Myers, County Commissioner; Ralph Cowles and Frank H. Craig, also County Commissioners; and W. H. Hedges, County Surveyor.

In the 1882 election, Elias McCaulley was elected as a member of the Council. F. H. Craig was elected County Commissioner. Other County officers were Register of Deeds, S. F. Hammond; Sheriff, Arthur Lawrence; County Assessor, S. W. Bowman; Judge of Probate, A. A. Selleck; Treasurer, R. L. Jones; County Surveyor, W. H. Hedges; County Coroner, M. L. Reed; Superintendent of Schools, E. A. Dye. For sale of intoxicating liquors, 330; against sale, 476.

In the 1884 election: Member of Territorial Council, J. P. Day; Members of House of Representatives, T. M. Jeffrey, Van Dorman; County

Commissioners, J. F. Huggins, J. B. Churchill; Register of Deeds, S. F. Hammond; Clerk of Courts, W. C. Smart; Sheriff, Arthur Lawrence; Assessor, C. H. Dreisbach; Judge of Probate, D. W. Poindexter; Treasurer, C. G. Winchell; Surveyor, W. H. Hedges; Coroner, E. F. Sedgewick; Superintendent of Schools, E. A. Dye; District Attorney, N. P. Bromley.

In the 1886 election: Member of Council, E. W. Foster; House of Representatives, W. C. Kiser, C. B. Hubbard; County Commissioners, John W. Switzer, and J. E. Labrie, Jr.; Register of Deeds, Ben Goodwin, Jr.; County Auditor, Wm. M. Thompson; Sheriff, Melvin J. Starr; Assessor, James B. Churchill; Judge of Probate, Isaac Howe; Treasurer, C. G. Winchell; Assessor, W. H. Hedges; Coroner, J. P. Hinckley; Superintendent of Schools, E. A. Dye; District Attorney, Thomas Sterling.

In 1887 occurred the election of Division of the Territory, and the vote showed 1151 votes against sale of intoxicating liquor and 737 in favor; 1307 votes for the division of the territory and 576 against it.

After South Dakota was organized as a State, the following officials were elected from year to year: County Commissioners, C. W. Gregory, William Bird, H. H. Bird, E. N. Graves, E. M. Smith, A. M. Moore, W. B. Sweetem, Frank Schnorr, James Avery, J. K. Fridley, E. A. Anderson, W. F. Robertson, E. B. King, L. E. Wood, J. O. Blythe, H. O. Hendrickson, R. L. Priestly, Gustav Bruell, S. W. Bowman, Thomas A. Price, John P. Smith, W. J. Jones, H. Cady, Reese Howell, L. E. Wood, H. H. Motley, A. W. Price, Ed. Freehoff, Fred Schroeder, John Hynes, F. H. Blume, John E. Chase, Will Dawson, Gordon MacNeill, William Johnson, C. F. Graves, and W. T. Hughes.

Other County and Legislative officials were as follows:

1890. State Senate, Harry Hunter and Thomas Sterling; House Members, J. M. Howard, C. H. Dreisbach, B. F. Bixler, S. W. Bowman, and L. E. Wood.

1891. After statehood the following Legislative members were elected: Senators, William Bird, and F. J. Corey; House Members, D. Robertson, H. H. Hill, C. M. Stephens, O. E. Wheeler, J. F. Wood.

1892. Senate, William Bird; House Member, D. S. Hooper, George W. Motley, H. P. Packard.

1894. Senate, W. D. Craig; House Members, C. T. Howard, R. H. McCaughey, Samuel Ebbert.

1896. Senate, W. D. Craig; House Members, R. H. McCaughey, C. K. Thompson, Samual Ebbert.

1898. Senate, C. W. Gregory; House Members, H. P. Packard; T. S. Everett.

1898. Senate, C. W. Gregory; House Members, H. P. Packard; T. S. Everett.

1900. Senate, C. W. Gregory; House Members, H. P. Packard, T. S. Everett.

1892, W. W. Taylor was elected State Treasurer; Other state officials from Spink County through the years, have included: C. C. Berg, Secretary of State; S. W. Clark, Attorney General; Peter Norbeck, as Lieutenant-Governor, Governor, and United States Senator; Thomas Sterling, United States Senator. In fact, Spink County had two United States senators at the same time.

People from Spink County have also filled many appointive positions: L. V. Doty and O. S. Basford were Commissioners of Insurance. James S. Huston and W. A. Morris were Adjutant General.

H. P. Packard was a member of the Board of Charities and Corrections. C. M. Henry was Rural Credit Commissioner. S. W. Clark was United States District Attorney; and P. W. Harmon, Director of Employment.

Spink County has always been a center for political activity.

About 1894, Issac Howe was the Populist Candidate for Governor, and Spink County was the center of the Populist Movement, and one of the principal points of activity of the Farmers' Alliance, similar in some respects to the Farmers' Union of today.

Spink County was also active in the free silver campaign, and has always waged a strong fight whenever the question of the sale of intoxicating liquors has been an issue. Every time the matter was voted upon, Spink County, as a whole, has voted "dry".

Early newspapers of Spink County were as follows:

Ashton:	Spink County Chronicle	1–3–1894 to 1940.
	Bee	12–1881 George L. Sholes.
	Herald	9–20–1881.
	Herald & Bee	1886 Carrol Atwood.
	Spink County Leader	5–27–1886.
Athol:	Star	3–27–1883.
Brentford:	News	2–7–1916.
	Spink County Spike	3–2–1907 C. J. Bailey. 1917 W. P. Buck
Conde:	News	First issued in Mellette by Charles A. Foster, Dec. 24, 1885. Moved to Conde April, 1887. 5–24–1886 Charles Foster. 1887 or 1888, Miller..
Crandon:	Tribune	1884.
Doland:	Times	12–18–1882.
Frankfort:	Advocate	December, 1883. W. B. Tapley.
	Messenger	6–10–1903–1917.
	Spink County Spy	6–16–1882.
Mellette:	Pioneer	9–16–1882.
	Tribune	1884 to 1914.
	Mellette Gimlet	1897.
Redfield:	Dakota Sun	6–24–1881 H. G. Rising.

	Dispatch	4–1882 H. L. Henry.
	Journal Observer	3–23–1882 Mill & Hadley.
	Press.	11–21–1884. O. S. Basford
	Reflex	Before 1901. Fred Sawer.
	Zietung	1890. George D. Fisner.
Tulare:	Reporter	1915–1934 Mike Anderson.
	Sold out to Redfield Journal Observer.	

Excerpt from County Proceedings

"On Motion of Mr. Foster, it was ordered and determined that a charter be granted to Meps McNab, Jr., and Lower, to erect and maintain a toll bridge across the Dakota (James) River on Section 8, Township 118, Range 63, West, for the term of ten years, from date hereof, and to charge the same rates as prescribed by the Code for "Ferries".

"An application was presented from Louis Kneisel for a charter to build and run a ferry across the Dakota River on Section 24, Township 117, Range 64, West.

"Ordered and determined by the board that a lease be given to Louis Kneisel to establish and run a ferry across the Dakota River on Section 24, Township 117, Range 64, West, for the term of fifteen years, from date hereof."

In 1885 it was estimated that Spink County had a population of 6,000. The assessed valuation of Spink County during that same year was $2, 041, 995. In 1882 it was $624,352.

The county contains forty-two congressional townships, equivalent to 1512 square miles, or 967,680 acres, making it one of the largest in the territory.

In the 1882 election, Elias McCaulley was elected as a member of the Council. F. H. Craig was elected County Commissioner; Other county officials were: Register of Deeds, S. F. Hammond; Sheriff, Arthur Lawrence; County Assessor, S. W. Bowman; Judge of Probate, A. A. Selleck; Treasurer, E. L. Jones; County Surveyor, W. H. Hedges; County Coroner, M. L. Reed; Superintendent of Schools, E. A. Dye; Vote for sale of intoxicating liquors 330; against, 476.

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Schools, E. A. Dye; District Attorney, Thomas Sterling.

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Two monuments have been erected by the DAR commemorating the rescue of Abigail Gardner. One concrete marker was built at the point on the river where Miss Gardner was rescued. The second tablet of granite and concrete with bronze plate was placed a short distance from the James River on Highway 281, three miles north of Redfield.

At Spirit Lake, Iowa in the spring of 1857, renegade Indians, after massacreing white settlers, kidnapped Abigail Gardner, a fourteen-year-old girl, and two white women, and brought them to the James River in Dakota. They drowned one of the women and killed the other, but Abbie was spared. They camped on the River, within the present boundaries of Spink County. At this point friendly Indians, as a result of intercession of Missionaries Riggs and Williams, rescued Miss Gardner and she was returned home to Spirit Lake, Iowa on May 10, 1857, after eighty-three days of captivity.

In the election of 1880 the first contest for the county seat occurred. The results were: Redfield 94; Frankfort 62; Ashton 24; Old Ashton 8. This was the beginning of the county seat war which lasted six years between Redfield and Old Ashton.

Since Old Ashton refused to relinquish the county seat to Redfield, another election was held in 1884, at which more votes were cast than there were people in the county. Later the records were stolen from the Old Ashton courthouse and taken to Redfield. The next day about 1500 people from Old Ashton, Mellette, Frankfort and Doland assembled at Redfield demanding the records. Violence was averted by an injunction obtained from a court in Milbank.

In 1886 Redfield won the county seat in a legitimate election.

The first courthouse for Spink County was erected in 1879 on the hill near the James River on Section 30, Township 117, Range 63. During the first year bills amounting to $950 were allowed, most of them for supplies. E. H. Alden received the first money paid by the county.

A mounted buffalo head secured in the last buffalo hunt in the county in July, 1881 became a prized possession displayed in the courthouse.

In addition to Redfield, other settlements in the county in 1880-81 included Belcher's Ford, Old Ashton, Clyde and Foster City.

Rutabagas and wheat were the staple supplies in many areas; the severe winter progressed. The crust on the snow was so sharp that the legs of men and horses were wrapped in grain sacks to prevent laceration.

The original townsite of Redfield was scripted by Albert W. Hard, who soon after deeded the tract to Albert Keep. The east side of the city was scripted by E. W. Foster, F. I. Fisher, Captain Parsons and others. In 1881 all sold their interests to Fisher and Foster. The land was then platted as Fisher's and Foster's Addition.

A great many varieties of dwellings, rough board shanties, sod shanties roofed with boards, tents, covered wagons, and dugouts were in the vicinity of Redfield.

The first inhabitable building put up on the town site was a rough board shanty erected by George Jarvis and his son, M. J. Jarvis, in 1880. The first house built and occupied by a family was of sod, built by T. B. Carpenter. Mrs. Carpenter was the first lady resident in the platted town of Redfield. George Jarvis and his son were the first to put a frame building known as the Jarvis House, on the town plat. Mrs. M. J. Jarvis was the second lady resident and the first to spend the winter within the platted town. The first child born in Redfield was a daughter, Winona Redfield to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. B. Bagge on the morning of October 29, 1881.

Redfield was organized under a special act of the legislature during the winter of 1882-83. The special election, upon the approval of the act of incorporation, took place April 7, 1883.

The first election in Redfield was held April 18, 1883. The following officers were elected; Mayor, D. N. Hunt; Recorder, George Johnson; Treasurer, M. Huston; Aldermen, J. J. Hough, H. G. Warnock, R. S. Hadley, A. Clark, F. L. Hudson; Justice, A. H. Edwards; Marshall, G. C. Hunt. Mr. Clark subsequently resigned and Dr. Bateman was appointed in his place.

The first store in Redfield was opened by J. F. Bryan, May 24, 1881, in a rough board shanty. The postoffice was also moved into it.

The first lawyer in Redfield was H. G. Warnock. The first depot was erected by the Northwestern Railroad in August, 1881.

The night of July 19, 1881 a storm occurred which left scarcely a shanty standing and scattered lumber and merchandise in every direction. The inhabitants sought shelter in any place they could, a number in the Jarvis House, which withstood the storm.

Redfield's first public schoolhouse was built in the fall of 1881, and during the following winter Miss Alice Thomas taught the first term of the school. Since it was too small, a new two-story frame building having four classrooms and an ornamental tower was under contract by January 1, 1882, and in October of that year it was completed and dedicated with Reverend O. S. Basford as principal.

By January 1, 1882 the town had a population of 200 which number was doubled during the year, and the one-storied structures were replaced by good-looking stores two stories high.

In 1883 the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad reached Redfield, and the town continued to grow rapidly. Three well equipped lumber businesses had been established, from 1881 to 1883, and two banks, the Spink County, on January 1, 1882, by F. A. Dawes of Ripon, Wisconsin, (a cousin of Vice President Chas. Dawes), and the Bank of Redfield, June 1, 1882, with D. R. Miller as Cashier and Manager. The former was of brick construction and contained a first-class fire and burglar-proof safe with time lock. The Bank of Redfield also had a good fire and burglar-proof safe.

The Roller Flouring Mill was erected during 1883 at an expense of $20,000.00 by Mr. Kutnewsky, formerly of Groveland, Illinois. It was a frame structure 30' x 36' and five stories high. Grinding capacity of the mill was 150 barrels every twenty-four hours.

The first Fourth of July celebration held in Redfield was in 1881. S. J. Conklin of Watertown, editor of the Dakota News, was the orator.

On April 25, 1879, Louis Kneisel settled on Section 24, Township 117, Range 64, and erected the first frame building in the county which was used as a hotel, bearing the name "The Council Stone House", named for the Indian Council Stone located a short distance from the house.

To the early settlers of 1879, in the county may be added the following: Thomas Farmer, Mrs. Skinner, D. N. Hunt, later a mayor of Redfield, Chas. Barker, R. D. Shaw, James Wynn, all of whom located in Townships 118 and 119, Range 63; S. D. Hastings on Township 117, Range 61; Philip Runser, W. H. Washbrun, Henry and John Kurtz, Warren Beebe, F. A. Gary, M. J. Starr, Frank Starr, F. W. Rogers, C. F. Hammond, D. McNabb, F. O. Childs, R. Bottum, Stanley Hall, J. Clifford, W. M. Harrold, Reverend Rogers, M. Flynn, George Small and brother, Wm. Bowles, W. H. Hedges, Chas. Foster and Daniel Shelton, who located on Township 120, Range 63.

Later arrivals were the Basford brothers, J. K., O. S., Fred, and Horace; H. B. Lathrop, J. S. Huston, M. J. Jarvis, K. L. Hassell, Peter Ternufen, George Bent, E. H. Alden, James Warden, Arthur Lawrence, J. G. Hoy, F. H. Craig, D. M. Craig, C. H. Myers, J. J. Myers, W. F. Deiter, Gustav Bruell, H. O. Halverson, F. I. Fisher, M. C. Harlow, J. P. Harlow and others.

In the summer of 1881, the Chicago and Northwestern Railway reached the county, and in the fall of the same year the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad was completed. In the fall of 1882, the Watertown branch of the Chicago & Northwestern was completed to the junction at Redfield and in August, 1883, the Milwaukee was extended through, making connection with the roads of South Dakota.

On December 28, 1889, Joseph Phillips, a farmer near LaDelle was lost in a blizzard and froze to death in his buggy. The next morning he was found several miles from his home, the horse still living.

In 1886, Mr. Phillips sowed a forty acre field of wheat in one day with a broadcast. The next day the wild geese came and took most of it. It required seventy bushels of wheat to replant it. The geese were so numerous they appeared as clouds rather than flocks.

The last Indians who really occupied a portion of what is now Spink County were a band of Yanktonian Sioux, 108 in number, who acknowledged Drifting Goose as their chief. Headquarters of this band was located at Armadale Island, east and north of Mellette on the James River.

The Indians resented the coming of the surveyors since Drifting Goose was not consulted and did not know anything of the Laramie Treaty of 1868, which relinquished Indian title to the lands owned by the Sioux with the exception of the Great Sioux Reservation, west of the Missouri, excepting Yankton, Crow Creek and Sisseton Reservations.

In 1879, President Hayes, by executive proclamation, set apart Townships 118, 119, 120, and 121 in range 63 as a permanent reservation for Drifting Goose and his band. In the meantime, however, he was persuaded to go down to Washington where he was induced to relinquish his lands for special concessions at Crow Creek, to which place he later removed, and where he spent the remainder of his life. In the summer of 1880, Hayes revoked the order establishing the Drifting Goose Reservation and the land was thrown open to settlement.

TERRITORIAL REGISTRATIONS

Name	Present Address	Yr. Came to Territory
Mrs. Chas. Van Houten	Frankfort, S. D.	Yankton Co. 1868
Dr. A. B. Hawes	Frankfort, S. D.	Sisseton Agcy. 1872
Chas. Van Houten	Frankfort, S. D.	Yankton Co. 1872
Desire M. Authier	Redfield, S. D.	Jefferson, S. D. 1874
Big Chief Sawbergsanger	Sisseton, S. D.	Sisseton Agcy. 1874
Knudt Afdahl	Redfield, S. D.	Moody Co. 1876
Mrs. Knudt Afdahl	Redfield, S. D.	Moody Co. 1877
Henry Sparling (on homestead)	Ashton, S. D.	Spink Co. S. D. 1878
Fred Curtis	Redfield, S. D.	1876
Mrs. E. H. Underhill	Frankfort, S. D.	1876

1879

Billinghurst, Mrs. C. B.	Pierre, S. D.
Beetem, Chas. E.	Crandall, S. D.
Beetem, Geo. M.	Crandall, S. D.
Cook, Milton	Long Beach, California
Danforth, C. C.	Raymond, S. D.
Farnham, Harry L.	Redfield, S. D.
Hanson, Mrs. Maren	Doland, S. D.
Harlow, James P.	Redfield, S. D.
Harlow, M. C.	Frankfort, S. D.
Lawrence, Arthur	Doland, S. D.
Percival, Joseph	Redfield, S. D.
Randolph, Mrs. Marion	Redfield, S. D.

1880

Allen, J. R.	Frankfort, S. D.
Byrle, Geo. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Bent, E. C.	Orient, S. D.
Beynon, J. K.	Turton, S. D.
Bennett, Mrs. Mary	Redfield, S. D.

Bruell, W. F.	Redfield, S. D.
Boub, Mrs. J. L.	Redfield, S. D.
Coleman, A. D.	Redfield, S. D.
Cole, Hattie C.	Bozeman, Mont.
Child, Harry Y.	Ashton, S. D. 59 Yrs. continuous residence.
Case, Wm. H.	Columbia, S. D.
Case, J. H.	Wishek, N. Dak.
Dow, A. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Dawson, Mrs. Elizabeth	Pierre, S. D.
Dykeman, Mrs. Georgia	Minneapolis, Minn.
Harrington, Mrs. Sarah	Ashton, S. D.
Howell, Mrs. Rees	Tulare, S. D.
Hassell, E. B.	Redfield, S. D.
Haag, Mrs. Nora	Redfield, S. D.
Holm, Ed. A.	Tulare, S. D.
Klebsch, Mrs. Sadie	Redfield, S. D.
Lockwood, E. R.	Athol, S. D.
Lenth, William	Doland, S. D.
Labrie, George	Turton, S. D.
Palmer, H. L.	Mellette, S. D.
Percival, Miss S. M.	Redfield, S. D.
Reynolds, Mrs. T. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Schoniger, Henry	Redfield, S. D.
Siebrecht, Grace Beynen	Turton, S. D.
Schone, Mrs. Louis	Frankfort, S. D.
Schone, G. A.	Frankfort, S. D.
Schafer, F. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Trier, Mrs. Anna	Tulare, S. D.
Thompson, C. K.	Northville, S. D.
Wright, Margaret E.	Redfield, S. D.
Weiland, John F.	Ashton, S. D.
Weiland, F. W.	Ashton, S. D.
Wagner, Mrs. Louise	Redfield, S. D.
West, L. B.	Frankfort, S. D.
Zell, Esther	Ashton, S. D.
Zeitlow, J. F.	Aberdeen, S. D.

1881

Anderson, Stewart	Frankfort, S. D.
Akin, M. F.	Redfield, S. D.
Boden, W. J.	Doland, S. D.
Boden, Mrs. W. J.	Doland, S. D.
Bent, Mrs. Ed.	Orient, S. D.
Bohn, Chas.	Adelaide, S. D.
Bloomhall, Shirley R.	Ashton, S. D.
Bice, Mrs. Cora	Redfield, S. D.
Bruell, A. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Bull, Roy T.	Redfield, S. D.
Buck, Mrs. G. F.	Doland, S. D.
Akin, F. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Bird, R. D.	Frankfort, S. D.
Clarke, Mira H.	Mellette, S. D.
Cole, Harlie C.	Redfield, S. D.

Danforth, F. J.	Raymond, S. D.
DesLauriers, Frank	Turton, S. D.
Eggleston, L. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Fortin, Mrs. Ed.	Turton, S. D.
Fortin, Mrs. Philip	Turton, S. D.
Geisen, Mrs. John	Mellette, S. D.
Klebsch, Mrs. Sadie	Redfield, S. D.
Kreger, George W.	Redfield, S. D.
Kerl, Mrs. Sarah	Mellette, S. D.
Kegler, Steven, Mrs.	Athol, S. D.
Klebsch, Henry	Redfield, S. D.
Kubitz, Mrs. A. J.	Redfield, S. D.
Kerr, James	Turton, S. D.
Lambert, Ed.	Redfield, S. D.
Luxton, J. T.	Frankfort, S. D.
Littel, Chas.	Redfield, S. D.
Littel, Mrs. Chas.	Redfield, S. D.
Lambert, Walter J.	Ashton, S. D.
Lunney, Ben	Ashton, S. D.
Lang, C. M.	Frankfort, S. D.
Lenz, Joe	Conde, S. D.
Lenz, Mrs. Anton	Conde, S. D.
Mannings, Bert	Redfield, S. D.
Myers, Mrs. C. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Myers, Mrs. Jennie	Redfield, S. D.
Mitchell, Mrs. Bena	Orient, S. D.
McNickle, Mrs. Blanche	Doland, S. D.
McCloskey, Anna	311 South Kline St., Aberdeen, S. D.
McKay, Donald	Redfield, S. D.
Nicholson, Mrs. Chas.	Redfield, S. D.
O'Neill, Mrs, Phil	Athol, S. D.
Payne, Fred H.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Palmer, Irwin H.	Aberdeen, S. D.
Packard, F. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Robinson, Hattie L.	Ashton, S. D.
Smart, John L.	
Smith, Mrs. Anna	Hitchcock, S. D.
Spain, Mrs. Georgia	Redfield, S. D.
Schalkle, H. J.	Redfield, S. D.
Smith, Joseph	Hitchcock, S. D.
Steffes, John	Turton, S. D.
Senechal, A. F.	Redfield, S. D.
Stutenroth, Mrs. C. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Thompson, Frank F.	Northville, S. D.
Sasse, H. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Williams, Frank E.	Redfield, S. D.
Wade, John	Aberdeen, S. D.
Webb, Mrs. Emma	Hitchcock, S. D.
Wolner, Mrs. Jeannie	Frankfort, S. D.
West, Mrs. Lizzie	Ashton, S. D.
Wilhelm, Mrs. Edith	Athol, S. Dak.
Yager, Mamie L.	Frankfort, S. D.

1882

Arns, Henry E.	Redfield, S. D.
Anderson, A. F.	Conde, S .D.
Andersen, O. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Anderson, C. M.	Conde, S. D.
Ball, Samuel	Tulare, S. D.
Bent. Lucy E.	Orient, S. D.
Beardemphl, Geo. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Blume, Eleanore	Hitchcock, S. D.
Boyd, J. H.	Tulare, S. D.
Blain, O. C.	Frankfort, S. D.
Bindenagel, Frank	Frankfort, S. D.
Boyer, Mrs. Thissell	Ashton, S. D.
Boyer, G. R.	Ashton, S. D.
Blume, H. F.	Redfield, S. D.
Bottum, Geo. R.	Redfield, S. D.
Booth, Frank D.	Athol, S. D.
Beckman, F. C.	Redfield, S. D.
Bollerslev, Martin	Doland, S. D.
Bindenagel, F. M.	Huron, S. D.
Connor, Grant	Redfield, S. D.
Cady, Hartwell	Mellette, S. D.
Clark, S. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Cole, Freda M.	Redfield, S. D.
Cleveland, Annie B.	Conde, S. D.
Churton, Edith	Hitchcock, S. D.
Cady, H.	Mellette, S. D.
Craney, William	Redfield, S. D.
Dring, Mrs. Grace	Rockham, S. D.
Ewing, Ira O.	Redfield, S. D.
Fillis, Mrs. J. S.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Fahlman, John	Frankfort, S. D.
Finnerty, Mrs. J. D.	Redfield, S. D.
Freeburg, John T.	Carpenter, S. D.
Francis, Minnie Piercy	Ashton, S. D.
Fryer, Mrs. C. W.	Florida
Flowers, Mrs. Mayme	Fort Scott, Kansas
Frazier, Mrs. Geo. H.	Brentford, S. D.
Flint, H. E.	Doland, S. D.
Grunland, Catherine	Mitchell, S. D.
Hart, Chas. M.	Beloit, Wisconsin
Holland, Reuben	Northville, S. D.
Hughes, Mrs. W. T.	Frankfort, S. D .
Irwin, Tom G.	Redfield, S. D.
Ingalls, Corbin	Mellette, S. D.
Irish, Mrs. Addie	Doland, S. D.
Irwin, David	Redfield, S. D.
Jones, C. E.	Doland, S. D.
Johnson, H. J.	Cresbard, S. D.
Joyce, Patrick	Rockham, S. D.
Klapperich, Mrs. Anna	Turton, S. D.
Kegler, Mrs. Bertha	Athol, S. D.

Kittlesland, Knute	Mellette, S. D.
Kingdon, Mrs. James	Hitchcock, S. D.
Kietzke, Mrs. Albert	Redfield, S. D.
Kiser, Frank C.	Aberdeen, S. D.
Kurtz, John	Redfield, S. D.
Luxton, Mrs. Mary	Frankfort, S. D.
Marquette, Paul	Tulare, S. D.
Labrie, Mrs. O. J.	Doland, S. D.
Labrie, Oliver J.	Doland, S. D.
Lindskov, C. M.	Doland, S. D.
Lips, Mrs. Jake	Hitchcock, S. D.
Lindskov, Cecelia	Redfield, S. D.
Lawrence, C. W.	Doland, S. D.
Lutter, John P.	Redfield, S. D.
Lingenfelter, Mrs. Earl	Hitchcock, S. D.
Lingenfelter, E. D.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Lewis, Mrs. E. D.	Ashton, S. D.
Lewis, E. D.	Ashton, S. D.
McNeill, Mrs. E. L.	Tulare, S. D.
McNeill, E. L.	Tulare, S. D.
MacNeill, Mrs. Gordon	Tulare, S. D.
Mariner, Chas. J.	Redfield, S. D.
Miller, Mrs. Elmer	Tulare, S. D.
Maack, Mrs. Anna	Hot Springs, S. D.
Meehan, James H.	Ashton, S. D.
Myers, C. R.	Redfield, S. D.
Marlette, Henry D.	Redfield, S. D.
Myer, Mrs. Frank	Huron, S. D.
Miller, F. H.	Tulare, S. D.
Motley, Mrs. H. H.	Frankfort, S. D.
Hart, Dr. B .M.	Doland, S. D.
Hoy, Albert	Huron, S. D.
Howell, Rees	Tulare, S. D.
Mannie, Mrs. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Miller, Mrs. W. E.	Tulare, S. D.
Hoskin, Mrs. Florence	Redfield, S. D.
McClain, W. M.	Frankfort, S. D.
McKay, Abbie R.	Redfield, S. D.
McIntyre, Eva Auston	Ashton, S. D.
McVay, Mae West	Ashton, S. D.
McCartney, Mrs. Bertha	Turton, S. D.
Naeve, Mrs. Nellie M.	Redfield, S. D.
Nelson, Harry	Ashton, S. D.
Nelson, Ole B.	Redfield, S. D.
Otto, Paul	Tulare, S. D.
Paulson, C. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Potter, Mrs. G. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Perry. Mrs. K.	Northville, S. D.
Prindle, L. C.	Redfield, S. D.
Percival, Roy	Northville, S. D.
Rabuck, Elvin C.	Redfield, S. D.
Rehnke, Mrs. Augusa	Redfield, S. D.
Roeber, Lewis	Tulare, S. D.

Retterath, Anton	Turton, S. D.
Roberts, Evan	Ashton, S. D.
Roberts, D. H.	Ashton, S. D.
Reed, Mrs. Edith	Athol, S. D.
Roeber, Herman	Tulare, S. D.
Sparling, Mrs. Ed.	Ashton, S. D.
Schultz, Geo.	Rockham, S. D.
Scoville, Louisa A.	Redfield, S. D.
Schwichtenberg, H. F.	Redfield, S. D.
Sisson, Mrs. Alma	Redfield, S. D.
Smart, W. R.	
Stephens, Mrs. Ada	Mellette, S. D.
Engler, Wm.	Conde, S. D.
Stemper, J. H.	Zell, S. D.
Steinbis, Ernest	Tulare, S. D.
Sell, David	Redfield, S. D.
Schwenn, Wm.	Athol, S. D.
Stedman, Mrs. L. L.	Watertown, S. D.
Satka, Mrs. Grace	Winona, Minn.
Schwichtenberg, August	Redfield, S. D.
Siebrecht, Frank	Turton, S. D.
Thompson, Mrs. F. F.	Northville, S. D.
Thompson, Clarence	Redfield, S. D.
Townsend, A. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Thompson, Mrs. Dr. J. R.	Northville, S. D.
Tebbell, Mrs. Carrie E.	Doland, S. D.
Van Ornum, L. C.	Conde, S. D.
Valder, Mrs. A. J.	Frankfort, S. D.
Vollmer, Mrs. Augusta	Huron, S. D.
Wilhelm, George	Athol, S. D.
Weiss, John	Zell, S. D.
Weiss, Henry	Zell, S. D.
Wallar, W. E.	Mellette, S. D.
Weiland, Chas. A.	Ashton, S. D.
Wells, William	Doland, S. D.
Wilhelm, Herbert J.	Huron, S. D.
Wilhelm, James	Redfield, S. D.
Wilhelm, Frank	Athol, S. D.
Williamson, Albert	Redfield, S. D.

1883

Backer, Mrs. H. W.	Tulare, S. D.
Bruell, Mrs. W. F.	Redfield, S. D.
Binger, Mrs. H. H.	Tulare, S. D.
Lunstrum, Sanfred	Redfield, S. D.
Bertsch, Mrs. Anton	Conde, S. D.
Bollerslev, A. B.	Doland, S. D.
Bollerslev, Hattie	Doland, S. D.
Brown, Mrs. Lida	Doland, S. D.
Boyd, Mrs. Sewell	Tulare, S. D.
Bloomhall, E. C.	Ashton, S. D.
Blain, Josie R.	Redfield, S. D.
Blain, Vina L.	Redfield, S. D.

Barness, Peter M.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Brockman, Herman	Redfield, S. D.
Blank, Carl	Frankfort, S. D.
Brown, Mary L.	Ashton, S. D.
Bird, Ella	Frankfort, S. D.
Bancroft, Mason	Redfield, S. D.
Chichester, Ella Miller	Redfield, S. D.
Christensen, Herman	Turton, S. D.
Cobb, H. C.	Redfield, S. D.
Comer, W. H.	Watertown, S. D.
Creager, Mattie T.	Redfield, S. D.
Cannon, Mrs. Ora B. (Comer)	Watertown, S. D.
Campbell, George	Orient, S. D.
Cliff, Lul Black	Mellette, S. D.
Christensen, Samuel M.	Frankfort, S. D.
Cahill, Thomas	Ashton, S. D.
Cool, Mrs. John F.	Redfield, S. D.
Christensen, John	Turton, S. Dak.
Chambers, Mrs. Wm. F.	Redfield, S. D.
Durkin, Tom	Doland, S. D.
Danforth, A. A.	Raymond, S. D.
Damuth, Ella Blain	Redfield, S. D.
Drayer, Mrs. Mayne	Frankfort, S. D.
Daugherty, J. W.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Eggler, Henry	Redfield, S. D.
Erickson, E. T.	Redfield, S. D.
Edler, Joe	Ashton, S. D.
Edda, Mrs. D. C.	Conde, S. D.
Ewing, Fannie E.	Doland, S. D.
Erickson, Mrs. Mary	Redfield, S. D.
Frankenstein, Mrs. Will	Hitchcock, S. D.
Frankenstein, Carl	Hitchcock, S. D.
Foglesong, A. C.	Tulare, S. D.
Fargo, John D.	Redfield, S. D.
Garrett, E. D.	Doland, S. D.
Gillespie, Mrs. M. A.	Frankfort, S. D.
Garry, Mrs. John	Athol, S. D.
Gruenwald, Jos. H.	Rockham, S. D.
Hillestad, Leonard J.	Redfield, S. D.
Hansen, Peter W.	Frankfort, S. D.
Hahn, Henry	Doland, S. D.
Holland, Lutie Cunningham	Northville, S. D.
Hawkins, Delia	Ashton, S. D.
Hodge, Eber E.	Ashton, S. D.
Hynes, Mrs. John	Conde, S. D.
Hart, A. L.	Ashton, S. D.
Harding, Mrs. Iva	Northville, S. D.
Justice, Andy	Redfield, S. D.
Kern, Henry	Redfield, S. D.
Kopplin, Chas. H.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Krieg, Mrs. C. G.	Redfield, S. D.
Kingdon, James	Hitchcock, S. D.
Knapton, J. E.	Athol, S. D.

Kline, Nettie	Doland, S. D.
Klapperich, Deneige	Conde, S. D.
Lunstrum, J. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Labrie, T. F. G.	Doland, S. D.
Lucas, Mrs. Chas.	Conde, S. D.
Linn, A. B.	Rockham, S. D.
Lower, Clyde C.	Ashton, S. D.
Lenz, Mrs. Joe	Conde, S. D.
Maron, Mrs. Caroline	Tulare, S. D.
Metz, Mrs. Anna	Miranda, S. D.
Madsen, Martin	Carpenter, S. D.
Miles, J. A.	Conde, S. D.
Monroe, Clayton W.	Redfield, S. D.
Myers, Bessie Taylor	Conde, S. D.
Motley, Henry H.	Frankfort, S. D.
Hansen, Peter M.	Turton, S. D.
Mullenberg, Estella	Doland, S. D.
Marzahn, F. A.	Tulare, S. D.
McNames, Mrs. Fred	Aberdeen, S. D.
MacNeill, Gordon	Tulare, S. D.
McIntyre, Norman	Ashton, S. D.
Nicholson, Anna M.	Redfield, S. D.
Nicholas, A. I.	Ree Heights, S. D.
Nelson, Violet Turner	Ashton, S. D.
Nelson, Oscar T.	Ashton, S. D.
Osman, S. S.	Ashton, S. D.
Price, Earl R.	Athol, S. D.
Peterson, Al	Doland, S. D.
Hoy, Mrs. H. H.	Brookings, S. D.
Haskell, Chas. A.	Conde, S. D.
Hoy, H. H.	Brookings, S. D.
Hoy, Emma	Huron, S. D.
Harms, Geo.	Tulare, S. D.
Hoellein, W. C.	Northville, S. D.
Herman, Sadie Meloy	Conde, S. D.
Ross, Edwin S.	Athol, S. D.
Rhoades, Harry A.	Athol, S. D.
Roeber, W. H.	Tulare, S. D.
Roeber, Henry B.	Tulare, S. D.
Roeber, Geo.	Redfield, S. D.
Schmidt, Paul H.	Redfield, S. D.
Strauss, Amelia	Redfield, S. D.
Schmidt, Mrs. Helen	Redfield, S. D.
Sisson, L. L.	Redfield, S. D.
Strauss, Frank G.	Redfield, S. D.
Schmidt, E. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Steinbis, Mrs. Ernest	Tulare, S. D.
Schafer, Mrs. F. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Stapp, David	Rockham, S. D.
Strasburg, Albert F.	Rockham, S. D.
Stapp, Mrs. David	Rockham, S. D.
Schalkle, Mrs. Bertha Hillard	Redfield, S. D.
St. Peter, Ovila	Turton, S. D.

Shade, Mrs. O. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Spink, Mrs. P. A.	Mellette, S. D.
Seaman, M. F.	Doland, S. D.
Sanders, Anton F.	Redfield, S. D.
Sanders, Ingrid	Redfield, S. D.
Smith, Lee R.	Conde, S. D.
Stutenroth, C. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Smith, Mary Justice (Mrs. B. L.)	Ellendale, N. D.
Smith, Mrs. J. B.	Northville, S. D.
Turner, Maude Meloy	Redfield, S. D.
Thompson, Chas. A.	Doland, S. D.
Travis, Maggie J.	Frankfort, S. D.
Tomsha, John	Tulare, S. D.
Tubandt, Miss Agnes	Redfield, S. D.
Tubandt, Richard E.	Redfield, S. D.
Woodring, Roy	Doland, S. D.
Wilkins, Patience	Doland, S. D.
Wells, Arthur O.	Doland, S. D.
Wagner, David B.	St. Paul, Minnesota
Walton, Truman	Tulare, S. D.
Wells, Mrs. Wm.	Doland, S. D.
Whiting, E. M.	Frankfort, S. D.
Watkins, Mrs. Frankie	Ashton, S. D.
Wallar, F. E.	Mellette, S. D.
Wood, Mrs. Fannie	Doland, S. D.
Wood, Harry R.	Redfield, S. D.
Yada, Chas.	Rockham, S. D.
Zietlow, J. F.	Aberdeen, S. D.

1884

Brugger, Emil	Tulare, S. D.
Benning, Albert	Zell, S. D.
Blain, Mrs. O. C.	Frankfort, S. D.
Block, Mrs. Wm.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Brant, Mrs. Emma	Athol, S. D.
Bourassa, Paul	Turton, S. D.
Backer, Henry	Tulare, S. D.
Christensen, Leslie S.	Ashton, S. D.
Daley, Wm. S.	Zell, S. D.
Everitt, Maud H.	Sioux Falls, S. D.
Eddy, Etta Schalkle	Aberdeen, S. D.
Eisele, Mrs. Evelyn Mair	Redfield, S. D.
Frankenstein, Wm. C.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Ford, F. A.	Mellette, S. D.
Frankenstein, E. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Fridlay, Leonard J.	Conde, S. D.
Gates, Helene Weiland	Redfield, S. D.
Goellen, Matt	Hitchcock, S. D.
Goellen, Mrs. Matt	Hitchcock, S. D.
Schalkle, F. O.	Redfield, S. D.
Smith, Miles V.	Conde, S. D.

Hoellein, Mrs. W. C.	Northville, S. D.
Heer, Frank	Doland, S. D.
Heer, Bernard	Doland, S. D.
Hilkemeier, Carl H.	Redfield, S. D.
Hopkins, Clarence G.	Redfield, S. D.
Hagmann, Mrs. Emma Buss	Rockham, S. D.
Hildebrandt, Edward	Conde, S. D.
Jensen, Jens	Redfield, S. D.
Jaquith, Mrs. R. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Jones, Fannie Bird	Frankfort, S. D.
Kaske, Fred	Hitchcock, S. D.
Kelly, Mrs. Josephine	Redfield, S. D.
Kietzke, Albert	Redfield, S. D.
Kraus, Mrs. Blanche	Doland, S. D.
Levtzow, B. D.	Rockham, S. D.
Liebig, Mrs. Rosa	Doland, S. D.
Lenth, Henry	Ashton, S. D.
Lovejoy, B. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Miller, Benj. W. Sr.	Redfield, S. D.
Meyer, Frank	Huron, S. D.
Haven, Mrs. F. G.	Mellette, S. D.
McNames, Fred	Aberdeen, S. D.
Olson, Mrs. Nels	Hitchcock, S. D.
Place, Harry J.	Conde, S. D.
Reed, Mrs. H. F.	Athol, S. D.
Rice, George	Redfield, S. D.
Runnels, E. M.	Redfield, S. D.
Roeber, Mrs. Gertrude	Tulare, S. D.
Rhoades, Mrs. Hattie	Athol, S. D.
Rudd, Harvey G.	Orient, S. D.
Ruhlman, F. W.	Miranda, S. D.
Sell, Mrs. David	Redfield, S. D.
Siebrecht, E. W.	Frankfort, S. D.
Torkelson, Thomas A.	Frankfort, S. D.
Twiss, Robert	Athol, S. D.
Percival, Lillian Little	Northville, S. D.
Twiss, Mrs. Frank	Aberdeen, S. D.
Van Ornum, W. H.	Turton, S. D.
West, Blinn,	Ashton, S. D.
Waterfall, Chas. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Wieting, Mrs. C. C.	Redfield, S. D.
Watts, Maude	Crandall, S. D.
Wieting, C. H.	Tulare, S. D.
Wilson, Charles A.	Redfield, S. D.
Sohrt, Mrs. Minnie	Rockham, S. D.
Stratman, W. F.	Northville, S. D.

1885

Arnold, Peter	Cavour, S. D.
Allderton, John	Redfield, S. D.
Bard, Mrs. James E.	Miller, S. D.
Brugger, Mrs. Emil	Tulare, S. D.
Binger, Edward J.	Tulare, S. D.

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Bertsch, Anton	Conde, S. D.
Bailey, Caroline (Bruell)	Redfield, S. D.
Bull, Ida Mason (Mrs. Roy)	Redfield, S. D.
Black, Lester W.	Redfield, S. D.
Bormann, Chas.	Athol, S. D.
Brant, E. H.	Athol, S. D.
Beckman, W. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Cobb, Mrs. H. C.	Redfield, S. D.
Flynn, Mr. & Mrs. Wesley	Frankfort, S. D.
Fortin, Philip	Turton, S. D.
Fortin, Ed	Turton, S. D.
Gillett, A. S.	Redfield, S. D .
Graves, Grace Jones	Ashton, S. D.
Goodell, L. S.	Redfield, S. D.
Haven, F. G.	Mellette, S. D.
Hawkins, Corinne	Ashton, S. D.
Humeston, E. R.	Redfield, S. D.
Hansen, B. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Hahn, Herman	Doland, S. D.
Hildebrandt, Mrs. Ed.	Conde, S. D.
Hawkins, Anna	Mellette, S. D.
Johnson, Mrs. W. M.	Redfield, S. D.
Kolegraff, Wm.	Zell, S. D.
Kenny, Guy	Zell, S. D.
Labrie, Mrs. T. F. G.	Doland, S. D.
Lenth, Mrs. Will	Doland, S. D.
Lindskov, Will	Doland, S. D.
Lambert, Mrs. Cora	Ashton, S. D.
Miles, Carrie E.	Conde, S. D.
Morgan, Mrs. Bertha	Turton, S. D.
Miller, A. A.	Tulare, S. D.
Marlette, Anna M.	Redfield, S. D.
Moore, Mrs. Earl	Redfield, S. D.
Hynes, M. P.	Conde, S. D.
Hurlbert, W. H.	Raymond, S. D.
Nicholas, Mrs. Delia Wiren	Ree Heights, S. D.
Nork, Max H.	Redfield, S. D.
Pearson, Mrs. J.	Frankfort, S. D.
Peterson, Ralph	Northville, S. D.
Roeber, August	Tulare, S. D.
Starr, Harvey	Frankfort, S. D.
Steinheuser, H. C.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Smith, Lee	Mellette, S. D.
Strasburg, Ferdinand	Rockham, S. D.
Shade, Gertrude	Redfield, S. D.
Siebrecht, John	Redfield, S. D.
Tollefson, Dick	Aberdeen, S. D.
Thomas, Arthur E.	Ashton, S. D.
Tubandt, Paul	Redfield, S. D.
Underhill, E. W.	Frankfort, S. D.
Weisflock, T. H.	Frankfort, S. D.
Wallar, Mrs. W. E.	Mellette, S. D.
Waterfall, Mrs. Alfred	Turton, S. D.

Wilson, Jessie M.	Ashton, S. D.
Zoodsma, Mrs. Hattie	Ashton, S. D.
Zeigler, Mike	Ashton, S. D.
Zeigler, Hugh	Ashton, S. D.

1886

Ayers, Mrs. Ida S. Tripp	Redfield, S. D.
Arnold, Mrs. Peter	Cavour, S. D.
Brugger, George G.	Tulare, S. D.
Bourassa, Mrs. Victoria	Turton, S. D.
Blank, John B.	Frankfort, S. D.
Benham, Mrs. B. T.	Redfield, S. D.
Beard, Mrs. John	Redfield, S. D.
Boyer, Edith M.	Ashton, S. D.
Bassinger, Mrs. Natalie	Northville, S. D.
Bindenagel, Mrs. F. M.	Huron, S. D.
Coolidge, Mrs. Mabel	Redfield, S. D.
Cooke, N. S.	Frankfort, S. D.
Coleman, Mrs. A. D.	Redfield, S. D.
Curtis, Mrs. Harry	Redfield, S. D.
Drayer, J. M.	Doland, S. D.
Drayer, Mrs. Hattie	Frankfort, S. D.
Dunton, Marie Louise Labrie	Redfield, S. D.
Fryer, A. R.	Doland, S. D.
Fliehe, Albert	Tulare, S. D.
Fryer, Louisa	Doland, S. D.
Frye, Henry	Redfield, S. D.
Fryer, Mrs. A. R.	Doland, S. D.
Frankenstein, Mrs. Sarah	Redfield, S. D.
Gates, D. H.	Redfield, S. D.
Galvin, W. J.	Ashton, S. D.
Garry, John	Athol, S. D.
Gavin, James G.	Redfield, S. D.
Gelhaus, Ernest H.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Hilkemeier, A. G.	Ashton, S. D.
Herold, Mrs. Martha	Redfield, S. D.
Hardie, Jacob	Redfield, S. D.
Humburg, J. R.	Redfield, S. D.
Jandl, Martha	Zell, S. D.
Jungwirth, F. J.	Zell, S. D.
Koester, Mrs. Christena	Chelsea, S. D.
Leibig, Robert E.	Doland, S. D.
Leibig, Richard C.	Frankfort, S. D.
Lutz, Chris	Zell, S. D.
Lambert, Mrs. Henry	Ashton, S. D.
Lambert, Matt	Frankfort, S. D.
Little, Arthur W.	Mellette, S. D.
Lea, Mrs. Emma	Doland, S. D.
Leiby, Stella	Frankfort, S. D.
Marzahn, Mrs. Ben	Tulare, S. D.
Marzahn, Ben	Tulare, S. D.
Marzahn, Millie B.	Tulare, S. D.
Morris, Mrs. W. A.	Sioux Falls, S. D.

Hofman, Mrs. S. G.	Doland, S. D.
Hurd, I. N.	Redfield, S. D.
Hughes, Mrs. Chas.	Redfield, S. D.
Morgan, Minnie A.	Redfield, S. D.
Meyers, Mrs. Chas.	Tulare, S. D.
Mulligan, Rose	Conde, S. D.
Olding, Lulu Cole	Redfield, S. D.
Olson, Ole	Frankfort, S. D.
Olson, Nels	Hitchcock, S. D.
Price, Ira O.	Hot Springs, S. D.
Paus, Mrs. Clara Huehl	Redfield, S. D.
Pettis, Leon E.	Doland, S. D.
Price, Ruth Stansfield	Athol, S. D.
Rice, Steven	Redfield, S. D.
Roche, Charles	Frankfort, S. D.
Runnels, Mrs. E. M.	Redfield, S. D.
Rehnke, Emma	Redfield, S. D.
Spink, P. A.	Mellette, S. D.
Spanbauer, Frank	Redfield, S. D.
Schade, Max	Zell, S. D.
Snyder, C. J.	Mellette, S. D.
Schroeder, Sr., John	Redfield, S. D.
Smith, Mrs. Sadie G.	Rockham, S. D.
Schandt, Albert	Northville, S. D.
Schmidt, W. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Tollefson, Marie Corley	Aberdeen, S. D.
Thompson, Mrs. C. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Udell, Theresa L.	Redfield, S. D.
Verholst, Mrs. E. C.	Huron, S. D.
Wendt, J. H.	Mellette, S. D.
Wybenga, Mrs. Etta	Ashton, S. D.
White, F. G.	Redfield, S. D.
Wolverton, Frank	Doland, S. D.
West, Julia Clifford	Redfield, S. D.
Zens, Theo	Zell, S. D.
Zoodsma, S.	Ashton, S. D.
Zell, Otto	Ashton, S. D.

1887

Ambacher, Emma	Tulare, S. D.
Benedict, Mina E.	Frankfort, S. D.
Brown, Elton G.	Milwaukee, Wis.
Benedict, Charles W.	Frankfort, S. D.
Baseler, Theo. H.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Burgess, Allen	Doland, S. D.
Baughman, Lester F.	Redfield, S. D.
Bindenagel, Mrs. Mattie	Frankfort, S. D.
Drayer, Mrs. Clara	Doland, S. D.
Darnall, Mrs. Mary	Doland, S. D.
Fehlman, Mrs. John	Frankfort, S. D.
Flint, Mrs. H. E.	Doland, S. D.
Fisher, Mrs. Geo. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Frankenstein, C. A.	Hitchcock, S. D.

Frazier, George H.	Brentford, S. D.
Fridley, Mrs. Lide (Clark)	Conde, S. D. (one of the twins
Gates, Mrs. C. L.	Redfield, S. D.
Howard, R. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Hunt, Ray N.	Redfield, S. D.
Hahn, Frank	Doland, S. D.
Harrington, Lawrence	Mansfield, S. D.
Hansen, Lucius	Turton, S. D.
Hoellein, Fred	Athol, S. D.
Hanson, Gustav E.	Doland, S. D.
Hansen, Mrs. P. W.	Frankfort, S. D.
Hansen, Nellie M.	Corcoran, California
Jensen, Emma	Ashton, S. D.
Jandl, Carl	Zell, S. D.
Knittel, Ralph	Redfield, S. D.
Krieg, C. G.	Redfield, S. D.
Kopplin, Mrs. Chas.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Little, Pearl J.	Mellette, S. D.
Lambert, Mrs. P. J.	Zell, S. D.
Lang, Daniel	Doland, S. D.
Lunney, Mrs. Carrie	Ashton, S. D.
Marzahn, Wesley	Hitchcock, S. D.
Miller, Rev. Paul S.	Rockham, S. D.
Morey, Grace D.	Redfield, S. D.
McCoy, Mrs. James	Redfield, S. D.
Osborn, J. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Olson, Mrs. Ole	Frankfort, S. D.
Petheram, John	Redfield, S. D.
Price, Laura Smart	Tulare, S. D.
Roberdeau, Mrs. Mary	Northville, S. D.
Roeber, Alfred	Tulare, S. D.
Ratliff, John F.	Carpenter, S. D.
Roberts, Mrs. D. H.	Ashton, S. D.
Roeber, Martin	Tulare, S. D.
Schuermeyer, W. J.	Redfield, S. D.
Schwenn, Fred	Athol, S. D.
Siebrecht, Ben	Ashton, S. D.
Stover, Nina M.	Ashton, S. D.
Thomas, Mrs. Bessie Ewing	Conde, S. D.
Tracy, Margaret	Redfield, S. D.
Twiss, M. J.	Doland, S. D.
White, Pearl Brown	Mason City, Washington
Williamson, Mrs. Albert	Redfield, S. D.
Wilhelm, Mrs. Herbert J.	Huron, S. D.
Winters, Mrs. Elizabeth	Brentford, S. D.
Wilson, Harry M.	Ashton, S. D.
Zarneke, Wm. E.	Redfield, S. D.
Johnson, C. H.	Frankfort, S. D.

1888

Arnes, Lydia	Redfield, S. D.
Authier, Emma	Redfield, S. D.
Ayers, D. H.	Redfield, S. D.

Brugger, Mrs. George	Tulare, S. D.
Brown, Roy	Athol, S. D.
Brown, Mrs. Jean	Doland, S. D.
Beveridge, Mrs. Margaret	Doland, S. D.
Bloomhall, Nellie	Ashton, S. D.
Buck, Mrs. Carrie	Doland, S. D.
Clark, Mrs. S. W.	Redfield, S. D.
Carr, Reuben	Zell, S. D.
Cady, Mrs. George	Mellette, S. D.
Erickson, Wylla Lawrie	Redfield, S. D.
Frankenstein, Lillie	Hitchcock, S. D.
Groft, Roa	Athol, S. D.
Groft, Mrs. Roa	Athol, S. D.
Gallup, Belle H.	Redfield, S. D.
Gruber, Joe	Redfield, S. D.
Gelhaus, Erwin	Hitchcock, S. D.
Hagberg, Mrs. Albert L.	Redfield, S. D.
Henningsen, Lugarda	Redfield, S. D.
Jones, Mrs. C. E.	Doland, S. D.
Johnson, Anton	Redfield, S. D.
Jungwirth, J. B.	Zell, S. D.
Lips, J. F.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Lenz, Ed.	Conde, S. D.
Lovelace, Mrs. C. H.	Doland, S. D.
Marquette, Wm.	Redfield, S. D.
Morris, W. A.	Sioux Falls, S. D.
Miller, Mrs. F. H.	Tulare, S. D.
Marzahn, Mr. & Mrs. Paul	Tulare, S. D.
Nogle, Mayme	Verdon, S. D.
Ott, Mrs. Anton	Redfield, S. D.
Platte, Wesley	Tulare, S. D.
Polack, John	Redfield, S. D.
Senechal, Sarah B.	Redfield, S. D.
Schultz, Otto C.	Tulare, S. D.
Swayze, A. J.	Mellette, S. D.
Shippee, Harriet	Doland, S. D.
Schmitten, Paul	Redfield, S. D.
Townsend, Mrs. Keitha	Northville, S. D.
VanMeter, Mrs. Ben T.	Aberdeen, S. D.
Weiderhoft, Albert	Chelsea, S. D.
Whiting, Elouise Austin	Frankfort, S. D.
Watts, George L.	Crandall, S. D.
Wallar, Mrs. Mabel	Mellette, S. D.

1889

Baseler, Mrs. Otto	Frankfort, S. D.
Batteen, Chester	Cresbard, S. D.
Brugger, Mrs. Luther	Hitchcock, S. D.
Brugger, Luther	Hitchcock, S. D.
Blume, John	Tulare, S. D.
Crawford, LeRoy	Aberdeen, S. D.
Case, Mrs. W. H.	Columbia, S. D.
Geary, M. A.	Conde, S. D.

Grant, Mrs. Nellie C.	Frankfort, S. D.
Goellen, Fred A.	Hitchcock, S. D.
Hearity, James	Redfield, S. D.
Johnson, Ray B.	Doland, S. D.
Jaragoske, Joe	Redfield, S. D.
Jaynes, Mrs. H. L.	Redfield, S. D.
Heer, A. R.	Doland, S. D.
Lunstrum, Mrs. J. A.	Redfield, S. D.
Liebig, William	Frankfort, S. D.
Little, Mrs. Arthur	Mellette, S. D.
Miller, Earl	Tulare, S. D.
Miles, John J.	Turton, S. D.
McCartney, W. H.	Turton, S. D.
Otto, Wm. H.	Tulare, S. D.
Olson, Fred H.	Turton, S. D.
Paulson, Fred	Hitchcock, S. D.
Payne, Bertha C.	Doland, S. D.
Peterson, Mrs. Josephine	Redfield, S. D.
Radcliffe, Mrs. C. N.	Tulare, S. D.
Schurch, Ernest	Redfield, S. D.
Schilter, Fred	Athol, S. D.
Sandeen, Albin	Ashton, S. D.
Smith, Serena Avery	Hitchcock, S. D.
Smith, Earl E.	Conde, S. D.
Stillwell, Mrs. Alice	Frankfort, S. D.
Turner, Mrs. S. J.	Ashton, S. D.
VanVoorhis, Levi	Huron, S. D.
Way, Mrs. Lula	Northville, S. D.
Willett, George W.	Tulare, S. D.

HISTORY OF SPINK COUNTY ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURE

By: Robert S. Sampson, Associate County Agent.

In discussing Spink County agriculture, one must consider the conditions which have made the agricultural situation what it is.

Spink County covers an area of 936,840 acres in east central South Dakota. The county is forty-two miles long and thirty-six miles wide. The topography is nearly level to undulating with only a few rolling areas. Elevation above sea level ranges from about 1,300 to 1,400 feet. Drainage is to the south with the principal stream being the James River.

The original vegetation was a mixture of short, mid and tall grasses. In general, the undulating uplands had mixtures of short and mid grasses, while the sandy plain and the alluvial areas were occupied by tall grass associations.

The materials from which the soils have developed include glacial deposits of sand, silt, clay, and gravel; and alluvium (stream deposits).

The climate of Spink County is characterized by extremes and irregularities throughout the four seasons of the year. Spring is moist, cool, and windy; summer is sunny, hot, and usually fairly dry; autumn is dry, cool, and sunny; and winters are cool and relatively long.

If the climate of Spink County were uniform it would be easy to select adapted crops and management practices. The history of Spink County has been one where a succession of good years has encouraged the use of crops and practices suited to more humid regions. Then crop and livestock losses follow when unfavorable weather comes.

Spink County, which is in the continental interior, has extremes of temperature because it is far from any large bodies of water which tend to keep coastal areas from wide temperature fluctuation.

The average length of the frost-free season for four reporting stations in Spink County is as follows: Ashton—142 days; LaDelle—130 days; Mellette—134 days; Redfield—140 days. This is not necessarily the length of the growing season, as frequently exhaustion of soil moisture may be the determining factor in measuring the length of the growing season.

Average date for the last freeze in the spring (32°F.) is May 10th, average date for the first freeze in the fall (32°F.) is September 25th,.

The autumn, winter and spring precipitation in Spink County is generally what is termed "frontal" precipitation. This kind of precipitation, some of which comes as snow, falls at a slow rate and over relatively long periods with individual storms covering most of the county.

Summer precipitation is mostly rain of the thunderstorm type. The rain comes as short, hard showers which may be accompanied by strong winds and hail.

In Spink County the agricultural significance of rainfall depends principally on its seasonal distribution, its variation in amount from year to year, and the rate of evaporation. In this county, the heaviest rainfall comes in the period April through August.

In Spink County the potential evaporation and transpiration (loss of water by growing plants) are greater than the rainfall.

Spink County's annual average precipitation is 19.21 inches. The growing season average (April through September) is 14.53 inches.

Prior to 1880, settlement of the county was very slow. There were a few settlers at Old Ashton, Belcher's Ford, and Foster City, but no mass movement to settle the county was made until the railroads decided to extend their lines westward into this new country. Almost immediately farmers from Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota moved into this new land that reported such outstanding crops. A colony from New York State took up homesteads and helped build this progressive community. In 1880, the assessed valuation of the county was $20,000.00; in 1881, $86,000.00; in 1882, $683,000.00; and in 1883, it reached $2,046,000.00. By 1890, the county had over 10,000 residents.

The United States Census credited Spink County with a population of 477 in 1880. A great influx of settlers arrived within the next ten years and the 1890 Census showed the county population at 10,581. After a slight decline between 1890 and 1900, there was a sharp rise bringing the total population to 15,981 in 1910. From 1910 to 1930 the number of people residing within the county remained fairly constant. The period between 1930 and 1940 brought a sharp decline followed by a slight decline between 1940 and 1950.

From 1890 to 1900 the average size of farms increased over 277 acres per farm. Changes in the average size of farms during the 20's and 30's were of little significance. Since 1935, the size of farms has been increasing. In the early days (1800's) Spink County had only a small percentage of tenancy. Most farms had been acquired by homesteading. As time progressed, tenancy steadily increased and in 1940, 64.4 percent of the farms were operated by tenants. Since 1940 percent of tenancy has declined.

In 1887, upon February 12 of that year, there was organized a Farmers' Alliance in Spink County. The Secretary's records give an account of the first meeting and its charter members. This was a county organization and included members from all over the County. The Charter members were: J. Q. Gould, Mellette; Joseph Schalkle, Redfield; W. B. Sampson, Redfield; Mathias Weiss, Zell; F. D. Carter, Groveland; William Sutton, Lake Township; J. E. Parmlee, Redfield Township; Joseph Moorefield, Charles Allen, C. H. Druyer, B. E. Campbell, Redfield Township; Peter McKay, Exline Township; C. A. Berkel, Redfield Township; E. C. Barrows, Three Rivers; James Manson, Lake; H. R. Lincoln, Lodi; H. B. Lathrop, Redfield; C. H. Myers, Redfield; C. L. Holcomb, Northville; J. A. Moore, Three Rivers; E. J. Arnold, Lodi; Newton Eggie, Great Bend; Andrew Erickson, Tulare; David Chase, Great Bend; Henry Sauer, Redfield; Louis Meier, Redfield; John Tyrell, Redfield; H. B. Littel, Lodi; Henry Kline, Three Rivers; Grant Shilling, Exline; Frank Beardsley, Great Bend; Thomas Shaw, Groveland; Sam Shields, Athol; Nicholas Balsiger, Lodi; Joe Travis, Frankfort; James Kidney, J. F. Hall, Three Rivers; John Rummelfinger, Exline; C. G. Bickford, Three Rivers; Richard McConnell, Exline; Robert Burns, Exline; Peter Swineford, Three Rivers; John Warren, Frankfort; H. F. Muller, A. L. Lotte, Three Rivers; F. G. Moore, Three Rivers.

According to the 1954 Census of Agriculture, Spink County has 1,557 farms with 932,833 acres of land. This farm land area makes up 96.8 percent of all land in the county. The number of farms declined from 2,101 in 1890 to a low of 1,482 in 1900. The 1910 Census showed an increase and reported 1,754 farms. From 1910 to 1935 the number of farms continued to increase. Since 1935 the number has decreased.

CHANGES IN SPINK COUNTY AGRICULTURE

(Number, Land in Farms, Size, and Tenancy — Spink County, South Dakota, 1890-1954).

		Farms		
	Number	Acres	Acres	Percent
1890	2,101	592,840	282.0	20.0
1900	1,482	828,602	559.1	26.8
1910	1,754	854,469	487.2	43.4
1920	1,874	864,006	461.0	47.4
1925	1,903	832,471	437.5	51.2
1930	1,993	917,151	460.2	54.0
1935	2,025	872,953	431.1	61.8
1940	1,751	903,899	516.2	64.4

1945	1,660	909,521	547.9	41.6
1950	1,641	914,819	557.5	32.6
1954	1,557	932,833	599.1	30.1

Most of the settlers who settled here in Spink County came from Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, and a few from Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The early Spink County settlers in 1880 first broke up the land and planted flax the first year. The breaking was done in the early spring with oxen and a one-share plow. In a good day, they could plow two acres. The next spring the land was usually planted to wheat and then some additional land was broken.

In the 1890's the average farm in Spink County was 282 acres — it was quite a problem to farm because of the scarcity of machinery. After a farmer had broken up his land, he would usually plant about one hundred acres of wheat, ten acres of corn, some oats, barley and speltz. Speltz became a popular crop because it could withstand drought. Because of good soil fertility, the wheat averaged about seventeen bushels per acre; corn, twenty-five bushels; and oats, fifty bushels.

Shorthorn cattle was the popular breed of livestock in the early 1900's. The shorthorns were also used for milking. Angus and Galloways were next in popularity. There were very few Herefords.

In a break-down of our economy in Spink County between the years of 1951 and 1955, we find that 36% of the income came from wheat, 22% from cattle and calves, 16% from hogs, 15% from other crops, and 11% from other livestock and livestock products such as dairy, sheep, poultry, etc.

About 1900, land sold for $19.00 per acre, and in 1904-05, it went up to $25.00 per acre. Wheat sold for $3.00 per bushel in 1918.

In Spink County there were few sheep, although quite a few were raised in Hand and Faulk counties. Duroc Jersey hogs were popular, marketed at 300 lbs. to 350 lbs. These weren't docked on the market, to the extent that heavy hogs are today.

Weeds were not much of a problem in those days, although the Russian thistles and sunflowers were pulled by hand or mowed, to keep them from going to seed. Black stem rust was a problem during the early days.

Spink County is Number One in the state and Sixth in the nation in wheat production, Second in the state in Rye, Fourth in Barley, Fourteenth in Oats, Second in Alfalfa Hay, and Twentieth in Corn. Production of field crops is an important phase of Spink County agriculture. In 1955, field crops made up about 51% of the county's cash farm income.

49% of all farm products sold were livestock or livestock products, according to the 1955 crop reporting service.

Cattle numbers were record low in 1935 when 17,700 head were reported for Spink County. An increasing trend began in 1936, and continued through 1946 when 51,000 head were reported. For the years 1946 through 1951, cattle numbers indicated a downward trend. Since 1951 there has been an increasing trend in cattle numbers.

Milk Cow numbers were fairly stable for the years 1926 through 1934. A record high of 12,500 head was reported for 1933. Since 1942 there has been a declining trend in the number of cows milked.

Hog numbers vary more from year to year than do the number of cattle. The record high number of 79,600 head was estimated for the year 1925, record low was 7,400 head in 1938. The large changes in hog numbers can be partially accounted for in that hog numbers can easily be increased or decreased to keep pace with changes in feed grain supplies and market conditions.

Sheep and lamb numbers were on an upward trend from 1926 to 1943. From the record high number of 53,500 head in 1943 to the low of 12,900 head in 1949, there was a downward trend in sheep numbers. Since 1949 the numbers of sheep and lambs have been increasing.

At the present time (1961) Spink County has approximately fifteen farmers irrigating from aquifer wells and rivers. With the passing of the South Dakota Sub-Conservancy District legislation, we could have much more irrigation within the next ten years.

In 1961 it is planned that Spink County will have about seven hundred acres of sugar beets grown under irrigation, with a loading station at either Hitchcock or Tulare. The beets will then be shipped to the U & I Sugar Company at Belle Fourche, South Dakota.

Year	Wheat	Cattle	Hogs
1884	$ .48 per bu.	$15.00 to $30.00 per head	$7.00 to $15.00 per head
1885	.55 per bu.		
1886	.44 per bu.		
1887	.45 per bu.		
1888	$1.00 per bu.		
1889	.60 per bu.		
1890	.70 per bu.		
1891	.72 per bu.		
1892	.50 per bu.		
1893	.45 per bu.		
1894	.52 per bu.		
1895	.41 per bu.		

In 1902, Spink County had:

75 Artesian Wells
A College
132 Common Schools
30 Churches
An Assessed Valuation of $6,546.971.00
12 Railroad Stations
8 High Schools
A State Hospital
6 Grist Mills
967,680 Acres of Land
A Population of 10,000
A Yearly production of 2,314,980 bushels of Wheat
A Livestock Valuation of $1,661,451.00

A Yearly Income from Livestock of $334,480.00

A Yearly Income from Livestock and Wheat alone of $149.19 for each inhabitant of the County, or $785.95 for each family of five persons. (From Picturesque Redfield, and Spink County, by: F. L. Ransom.)

At the time Spink County was organized July 22, 1879, the population of the county was two hundred. The first united gathering of the people was a mass convention held in September, 1880, in the Runser schoolhouse. The first furrow was plowed on the 17th of April, 1879. The first white woman to arrive in the county came the 16th of April, 1879. There were but twelve white women who wintered here during the winter of 1879-80. The total population in the county that winter was about fifty. The first schoolhouse was built during the summer of 1880.

The rapid development of the area was illustrated by the following facts:

	1881	1891
Population	500	12,000
Assessed Valuation	$91,031	$4,236,432
Miles of Railroad	None	150
Acres Tilled	5,000	500,000
School Teachers	1	183
College Professors	None	10
Value of School Property	$800	$10,500
Paid Teachers	$300	$25,000
Churches	None	21
County Buildings	None	20,000

The County buildings were not built by bonds, but by direct taxation, hence the county had no bonded indebtedness.

Spink County, comprised a territory greater in area than the state of Rhode Island. The superiority of climate is unquestioned. Nowhere is it more invigorating.

SPINK COUNTY BANKS AND BANKING

1882 - 1961

The history of Spink county banks, since 1882, has been varied, rugged, and disappointing in the dry years, to say the least. This, together with the years 1929 and 1933 created many problems. At one time Spink county had twenty-three banks, and of course this was too, too many. Now, in 1961, the county is served by seven banks: Conde, Doland, Mansfield, Mellette, Redfield, and Turton.

The following is a condensed history of the former and present Spink county banks, from the best information available at this time.

Ashton. It would seem that Ashton had been served by three banks, the first being that of Charles Billinghurst, in 1882, apparently of the private banking nature. At a later date, two other banks, the Ashton State Bank wih Ed. Graves as Cashier and Harry Wilson as Assistant Cashier, and the First State Bank, with S. P. Watkins, President, and W. E. Cole, Cashier. There is no bank at this time in Ashton, South Dakota.

Athol. Apparently there was one bank at Athol, the Athol State Bank, of which H. L. Watkins was Cashier, and M. J. Twiss, who went to work on November 19, 1906, was Assistant Cashier. At the present time there are no banks in Athol, South Dakota.

Brentford. The first bank in Brentford was the First State Bank, with Paul Smith as Cashier, and organizer. Later a second bank was started, the Farmers State Bank, with Bert Eske as President at one time, and Charles Cuatt, as Cashier. Then these two banks merged under the name of Farmers State Bank. Later this merged bank had as officers Art Tilgner and Clifford Smith. There is no bank in Brentford, South Dakota, at the present time.

Conde. The first bank at Conde was the Conde Bank, started and organized by Bert Smith. At a later date, a second bank was started, the Farmers & Merchants Bank, with E. R. Place as President, and Earl Baertsch, Cashier. At the present time, the Peoples Bank is the continuing bank, with Earl Baertsch, Cashier, as the managing officer.

Doland. Doland apparently had been served by three banks, the State Bank of Doland, Joseph Garthwaite, President and Paul Brown, Cashier; the Security State Bank, with George Gross, President, and John H. Levsen, Cashier. The final and continuing bank was the Security State Bank, with M. J. Twiss as Cashier, and George W. Cluts, Assistant Cashier.

Frankfort. At Frankfort, there appears to have been two banks, the First National Bank, with C. A. Kleppin, as President and P. D. Esau as Cashier, and the James River Bank, with C. J. Boub, as President and John O. Bahde, as Cashier. There is no bank at Frankfort at the present time.

Mansfield. The original bank of Mansfield was started by Walter Brown, an early Spink County resident. At a later date, he was followed by Frank J. Simmons, as President, and Arther Baisch, as Cashier, and the bank was called the Mansfield State Bank. The continuing bank at the present time is under the same name with Art Baisch as President and Robert Forsythe as Vice-President and Cashier.

Mellette. The original bank at Mellette was started by John Gange, at a very early date, with Al Gange as Cashier. Later, this was assumed in some manner by E. C. Issenhuth, of Redfield, as State Bank of Mellette. Then R. H. McCaughey associated himself with Issenhuth. Then, McCaughey was President and Richard Tollefson Cashier. Later, N. D. MacArthur was Cashier. In 1905 a second bank was organized under the name of Farmers State Bank with H. Cady President. The bank has continued since 1905, under a Cady management, and the present officers are Geo. P. Cady, President and John T. Collins, Cashier.

Northville. The first bank in Northville was the B. A. Bissell bank, organized about 1883, later, followed by the Northville State Bank, with Banker Brown as president and Oscar Henjum, at one time, cashier. This was followed by Mustar and Tilgner and by the Bockler Bros. A second bank was the Farmers State Bank, with Frank Mariner and Wm. Clarke among the organizers, a Mr. Weber managing officer and a Mr. Gannon President. This bank merged with the Northville State Bank.

There is no bank in Northville, South Dakota, at the present time.

Redfield. It would appear that Redfield at one time or another was served by three banks. The Merchants Bank was managed by a Mr. Morris and Mr. Loomis. The original German-American Bank was managed by J. A. Pritzkau. Later the name was changed to American National Bank, with S. W. Clark, President, J. I. O'Connell Cashier and L. D. Roberston, Assistant Cashier. The Redfield National Bank had Z. A. Crain, President, J. D. Fargo, Vice President, and C. M. Henry, Cashier. Later this was the First National Bank of Aberdeen, South Dakota, Redfield Branch, and in 1945 Spink County Bank was organized with H. T. Haynes, President, V. E. Roeber, Cashier, Len D. Robertson, Vice President, and H. D. Haynes, Assistant Cashier. At the present time, Redfield is served by the Spink County Bank, as above mentioned, and the Redfield Branch, as mentioned, with R. E. Hassell as Vice-President and Manager.

Tulare. At one time Tulare had two banks. However, the only information we have is on the State Bank of Tulare. This bank had as officers: W. J. Craig, Vice-President, James P. Paulsen, Cashier, and A. H. Gilby, Assistant Cashier. There is no bank in Tulare, South Dakota at the present time.

Turton. Turton has been served by two banks. In 1902 Louie Stoeckle, Severson, McShane and Kline were organizers; later S. E. Morris and W. A. Morris served the bank. The Farmers State Bank was opened in August, 1915, with Peter M. Hansen, as President and H. L. Smith as Cashier. Later cashiers were P. D. Esau, F. H. Troske, Wm. A. Mott, W. A. Mueller, and R. E. Troske. Turton continues to be served by the Farmers State Bank, with Lucius Hansen, President, F. H. Troske, Vice-President, and R. E. Troske, Cashier.

A NEW ERA

Chapter Three

ARMADALE TOWNSHIP

Armadale Township was in the extreme northwest part of the county and named on June 16, 1883 for the post office. Later, it was sub-divided into Mellette and Tetonka Townships.

ANTELOPE TOWNSHIP

Antelope Township, located in the southeast part of the county, was named by Lewis Merriman, who, seeing several beautiful antelope on his way to the first township meeting, which met at the Churtons, asked to have the township called Antelope. Three years later, during the great blizzard of January 12, 1888, Mr. Merriman and his son were frozen to death on the prairie near their home.

The township was organized sometime between 1883 and 1885. Among the early settlers located there in 1882 were: S. H. Riggs, Frederick Knickrehm, E. O. Churton, and Peter Freburg.

Laura Riggs was the first baby born in the township, and the first marriage was that of Mary Knickrehm.

LaDelle school was the first in the township, taught by Nelly Davis.

ATHOL TOWNSHIP

Athol Township, in the extreme northwestern part of the county, was named for the town of Athol. It was organized as a civil township on March 1, 1886. The boundaries were extended on April 5, 1886. It was named for the town of Athol which received its name from officials of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. Prior to this time the town of Athol had been called Myrtle City in honor of the first baby born there, Myrtle Taylor.

The first school was located across the street northwest of the Catholic Church, which church was built in the early 1880's. The Congregational Church was organized September 11, 1881.

Early settlers included Dennis Galvin, Hannah Galvin, Elias Brown, W. W. Taylor, (father of Myrtle Taylor, the first baby born in Athol), Robert Owen, Richard Owen, Robert Knapton.

Charles Phillippi, famous Big League pitcher, went from Athol to Ashton, then to Redfield, Minneapolis, Louisville, Kentucky, and finally to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. He played in the first World Series in 1903, and died in 1952.

BELMONT TOWNSHIP

Belmont Township, in the extreme south part of the county, was named for a Mr. Belmont, who squatted on this land in the early Eighties. This was one of the last townships in the county to be settled. It was organized as a civil township on July 16, 1885.

BENTON TOWNSHIP

Benton Township, in the northeast part of the county, was first known as Hall Township, and organized as a civil township on July 24, 1890. It was named for H. C. Hall, chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the township. He was instrumental in establishing telephones in the rural districts of Spink County.

On October 7, 1890, a majority of the legal voters of the township petitioned to have Hall Township attached to Olean Township, but the citizens of Olean Township petitioned against this annexation.

On November 10, 1890, Hall Township was reorganized as a civil township with the name of Benton, and was not annexed to Olean Township. The township was named for a Mr. Benton, one of the early settlers of the county.

CAPITOLA TOWNSHIP

Capitola Township, in the southeast part of the county, was named for Capitola Kennedy Else, the first white woman in the township. It was organized as a civil township on January 14, 1886.

CLIFTON TOWNSHIP

Clifton Township, located in the north central part of the county, was named for Clifton Township, Iowa, by one of the early settlers who came from that place. It was organized as a civil township on September 2, 1890.

According to the records on file, the first annual township meeting was held in the town of Clifton, in the County of Spink, at the Clifton schoolhouse Number 3, known as the Siebrecht school, on the third day of March, 1891. The following were elected to act for the first election: W. H. Chadwick, moderator; F. Barz, Fred Hansel and W. H. Chadwick, Judges and George McAllester, Clerk. They went into regular session and elected the following officers.

John Fassett, Chairman
W. H. Chadwick, Supervisor
J. H. Fassett, Supervisor
Jay Baker, Supervisor
T. Hansen, Treasurer
R. W. Baker, Clerk
George McAllester, Assessor
D. P. Graves, Justice of the Peace
A. Baker, Justice of the Peace
Chas. Graves, Constable
E. Bastian, Constable
Jed Critchett, F. McCart, John West, and Christ Barz, Road Supervisors.

They limited the assessor's salary to $30.00 and divided the township into four road districts.

The first audit showed the collections to be $295.00. Paid out, $143.11. Balance $151.89.

On March 28, 1898, motion was made and carried that the Clerk destroy all the verified accounts up to January 1, 1897.

CORNWALL TOWNSHIP

Cornwall Township, in the extreme south central part of the county, was named for Cornwall, England, by residents who came from that place. This region was felt to be as rocky as the county of Cornwall, England. The township was organized as a civil township on July 16, 1885.

CRANDON TOWNSHIP

Crandon Township, in the lower southwest part of the county, was named for the town of Crandon, and organized as a civil township on April 6, 1886.

BELLE PLAINE TOWNSHIP

This township is in the southeastern part of the county. It was named for Belle Plaine Township, in Iowa, by Aaron Hoover, one of the early settlers, who formerly lived in that township. It was organized as a civil township on March 2, 1891.

Among the settlers who came to the township in 1880, were: Walter Lawrence, Arthur Lawrence, and George Buck.

The first baby born in the township was Sam Christensen, in June, 1883. The first marriage was that of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Irish.

Some of the first schools in the township were: Carter School, in which literary meetings were held, and the Red Star School. Sadie Seaman was one of the first teachers of the former school, and Abbie Reynolds was an early teacher in the latter school.

The first stone house and barn were built in 1889 by J. W. Mawford.

BEOTIA TOWNSHIP

Beotia Township is in the northeast part of the county, and was named for the Beotia postoffice. The latter had been named by Ed Borwell, of Conde, for his home town in England.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Reynolds came to the township in 1882, Mrs. Reynolds being the first white woman to locate there. They established their homestead and tree claim on the north half of Section 20, and built their house on the line between the two. It was, in fact, a combination house and barn, and there the first Church and Sunday School services were held under the direction of Elder Edgar, who was beloved by all who knew him.

Other early settlers who came to this township were: E. H. Smith and John Smith, who came in 1882. Their families did not come here until 1883. Irvin Simmons came to the county in 1882, but did not move to Beotia township until 1883. Edward Borwell came in 1882, and S. L. Cleveland who later became Mr. Borwell's son-in-law. Alden Morrill and James Bowers came in 1882.

At first, Conde and Beotia townships were together as a school district. In the minutes of the school board for July, 1883, it was recorded that the County Superintendent had made the following appointments: Edward Borwell and A. B. Purse. A. F. Bollman had been nominated but he declined, so L. A. Persons was appointed by the Superintendent E. A. Dye.

At the September 1st meeting a resolution was adopted to call a meeting for September 4, to vote on the question of issuing bonds in the amount of $1,550.00 to build two schoolhouses and furnish them. On motion, a tax of fifteen mills on the assessed valuation of the town was levied for school purposes. At this meeting a total of eighteen votes was cast, with eleven for, and seven against.

At a meeting on October 6, it was decided where to build the schools. School No. 1 was to be located on Section 19, Township 120, Range 61, and the contract was let to the St. Croix Lumber Company of Groton. School No. 1 was the first to be built.

This board met each month, and often called extra meetings. At a special meeting on October 20, the Clerk and Director signed bonds in the sum of $1,500.00, payable in fifteen years, with interest, at 7% per annum, to the Commercial National Bank of Chicago. On motion, these bonds were placed in the hands of the Treasurer, to be placed in the hands of the Spink County Bank in Redfield, for negotiation, the Treasurer to have the bank's receipt for same. They were to get their books from A. S. Barnes Company of Chicago, on contract for five years.

At a meeting held on December 18th, a contract was made between the board and Miss P. V. Herman to teach school No. 1, and George Whitaker to teach school No. 2, for three months at $30.00 per month, school commencing Dec. 24, 1883. On motion it was decided to admit nonresident pupils to schools on payment of $1.00 per month, provided they did not over-crowd or interfere with the good of the school. They were to have three months school in winter and three in the summer.

Miss Herman taught several terms of school in Beotia School No. 1. August 16, 1884, the school board called a meeting of the voters of the district to vote on the question of raising bonds to the amount of $700.00 to build two additional schoolhouses, "No. 3, and No. 4", These were to be built in what is now Conde Township, as they were to be located in Range 60.

On May 17, 1884, the board met in special session, issuing an order in favor of the Union School Furniture Company of Battle Creek, Michigan, for $200.00 payable October 15, 1885, with interest at 8% per annum from October 23, 1883, the order being in payment for furniture, etc. for schools No. 1 and No. 2.

On June 24, a committee was appointed to audit the Treasurer's report: Mr. Poindexter, Mr. Ingersoll, and Mr. Stoddard. They reported the accounts correct.

At a meeting on August 16, 1884, it was "Resolved that a meeting of the voters of the district be called September 6th, to vote on the question of issuing bonds to the amount of $900.00 to build two schoolhouses in the district."

At the election held on Sept. 6th the total number of votes cast was seventeen, with sixteen for, and one against.

At a meeting Oct. 4, it was decided not to sell bonds at present, as the best offer was 83¢ on the dollar. They decided to buy lumber for two small schoolhouses, on credit for six months, providing the bonds could be sold in that time, the lumber to be paid for from the proceeds. If not, the money was to be taken from the treasury.

At a meeting on Oct. 3, 1885, the board met and voted to build an entry on Schools No. 3 and No. 4, and one outhouse for each. At the next meeting, Nov. 7, a bill was allowed for lumber to G. B. Jones for $22.19, Hardware $1.75, and to Roofing Co. for roofing and freight, $18.70.

Below is a list of the names of parents in the Census record, in 1885, with the number of children between the ages of seven and twenty-one:

James Avis	5	Mail Ingraham	4
John Alberts	2	Nathaniel Jackson	4
Ed Borwell	3	C. L. Lahie	1
John Brown	2	Kate McPartland	3
One of these was a Fred Davis.		Patrick Neilan	4
F. Boltman	2	Currier Page	1
Anton Christenson	1	C. V. Percy	4
F. M. Conklin	4	G. H. Percy	1
S. P. Cook	1	A. B. Purce	2
G. A. Derrick	2	Wm. Pickett	3
George Engler	5	Eli Reynolds	2
G. I. Gordon	4	Jed Simmons	1
Jason Haskell	4	Irvin Simmons	1
Charlot Hall	1	W. Sunderlain	3
John Howe	2	Eugene Sullivan	5
LeRoy Hopper	2	Ed. Whetstine	2
Waterbury Hendryx	4	Joseph Wolf	1

Making a total of 86

In the 1886 Census, all of these names were listed except Jed Simmons, and the following were added:

Elijah Smith	1	C. M. Ingersoll	2
Frank Markham	1	(William Hahn)	
H. S. Neimire	1	(Nancy Markham, a sister)	
Martin Permick	1	(John Washnok)	
Frank Taylor	1	(Anton Kahla & Ed. Johnson)	

Making a total of 93.

At a meeting the school board voted to give the teacher $30.00 per month and to see that the money was properly earned.

At a meeting on May 31, the board decided to divide the Beotia school district into four sub-districts, the No. 1 to consist of the south half of 120-61; No. 2, the north half of 120-61; No. 3, the north half of 120-60; and No. 4, the south half of 120-60.

At a meeting on July 16th, 1887, the board voted to pay teachers holding a first grade certificate $40.00 per month, second grade, $35.00 per month, and third grade, $30.00 per month. At this meeting they also voted that a tax of 20 mills on the dollar be levied.

On April 10, 1888, Mr. I. E. Barnes made the following proposition to the board in writing: "I agree to purchase the bonds of Beotia School (Bonds voted Sept. 1884) at ninety-eight cents (98¢) on the dollar, provided they can be sold East, and will furnish the necessary blanks for same." A motion was made and carried, that a committee be appointed to draw plans and specifications and also to advertise for bids to build a schoolhouse in District No. 5. not to exceed 18x28 ft. with 10 ft. posts, and to act as a building committee, provided the bonds are sold.

At a meeting July 10th, the Treasurer's report was not accepted and was returned for correction.

A special meeting was called August 21, 1888, to vote bonds in the sum of $1950.00 for the purpose of building four new school houses, to be located on the Northeast quarter of Section 8-120-60; on the Northwest quarter of Section 34-120-60; on the Southeast quarter of Section 27-120-61; and one in the village of Conde.

On September 27, 1887, the school board decided to hold a special election for the purpose of voting bonds in the sum of $1500.00 for three new schoolhouses, two of these to be built in what is now Conde Township and one in this township on the Northeast quarter of Section 27-120-61.

On July 10, 1887, the board met and the following were chosen as directors for the schools: District No. 1, E. H. Smith, No. 2, J. F. Haskell, No. 3, John Alberts, No. 4, P. S. Cook, No. 5, F. M. Conklin, and No. 6, J. E. Barnes.

At a special meeting on July 24, the school board decided to have seven months of school, and authorized the directors to hire the teachers of their schools, with the clerk and chairman drawing up the contracts.

On September 28, 1889, a bill for $20.00 was allowed H. G. Carner for moving School No. 1 to its present location, where it is now used for meetings and as a voting place.

There has never been a church building in Beotia Township, but many meetings were held in the homes in the early days.

BUFFALO TOWNSHIP

Buffalo Township is located in the extreme southwest part of the county. It was so named because of the vast amount of buffalo grass in the township. It was organized as a civil township on July 16, 1885.

Among the early settlers were John Switzer, a rancher who kept several hundred head of cattle, and owned the largest ranch in the county; Reverend W. Pierce, Mr. Hoff, the Wood Brothers and Andrew McCharry.

Other early settlers included Charles and August Schultz, who came in 1882; John Binger, Henry Roeber, Barney Huehl, John Steinbis, Herman Otto, Albert Otto, Gordon MacNeill, George Hague, and John Switzer.

The first schools in the township were the Huehl School, the Hague School, and the Binger School. At that time, Lake and Buffalo Townships were in one school district.

CONDE TOWNSHIP

Conde Township, No. 120, Range 60, is located in the northeast corner of Spink County and is bordered on the north by Bates Township in

Brown County, and on the east by Oak Gulch Township in Day County. It was first a congressional township. On April 6, 1891 it was petitioned to become a Civil Township. Conde Township was organized and the first meeting was held in the Conde town school on April 22, 1891. It was named Conde Township from the town of Conde. The original town site was located in the southwest corner of the township.

Some of the early settlers came by rail and then by horse or oxen. One of the earliest settlers was Phineas Cook who came in the 1870's. Others were John Owens who came from Ireland and homesteaded in 1882, James H. and Abe Malloy in 1883, Hack and S. V. Persy with their families in 1883. Others who came in 1883; were Avis, Alberts, Allen, Buffer, Crawford, Crandall, Derrick, Frommel, Grooms, Gooder, Hendricks, Holliday, Hopper, Ingersall, Jackson, Kulp, Herman and John Niemeyer, Dr. Puckett, Potter, Pickett, Spangler, Emma Taylor, Frank Taylor, and A. A. Taylor. Some of these settlers stayed only a few years. They sold the land and moved away. Dennis Cook, son of Phineas Cook, was born here in 1879.

The nearest town in the early 1880's was Groton, which was twenty miles distant. Robert Ingersoll homesteaded in the center of the township and operated a country store for twenty years. There were three postoffices; the Gross postoffice, located one mile east of the center of Conde Township, in Day County; Lewis Stakels Half-Way House, also in Day County, one mile east of the south line of the township; and the Beotia Postoffice operated by Herbert Johnson, located one mile west of the center of Conde Township in Beotia Township.

The old stagecoach road angled southeast to northwest across the township and the ruts of this old trail remained for many years. In 1887 the Chicago and Northwestern railroad crossed the township from south to north. In 1906 the Minneapolis and St. Louis railroad came through from east to west.

Angling across the township northeast to southwest was an Indian trail. Even after much of the land was fenced this general route was followed as late as the late 1920's. Many arrowheads, hammers, spearheads and other tools of Indian craft have been found there.

The first schoolhouse was a round roofed building located in the southcentral part of the township. Phineas Cook was the first teacher, teaching three years from 1885 to 1887; there were forty pupils the first year, and five of them were over the age of twenty-one years. Ada Taylor then taught school there, and about 1889 a new schoolhouse was built. This schoolhouse was later moved one mile north and one mile east to a more central location. It was now known as the Taylor School as it was located on land that was owned by A. A. Taylor. Two other schoolhouses were built later. One two and one-half miles north, and the other two miles north and two and one-half miles west of the first school. These three schools had an attendance of about sixty pupils. The drought and depression of the 1930's caused a number of families to leave, and the schools began to close. There have been no rural schools in Conde Township since 1945. Conde School District No. 29 became part of Conde Independent School District No. 57 when the School District reorganized.

EXLINE TOWNSHIP

Exline Township, in the west part of the county, was named for Leander Exline, one of the early settlers of the township, who made final proof on the southeast quarter of Section 11, Township 116, Range 65. It was organized as a civil township on September 7, 1885.

FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP

Frankfort Township, in the southeast part of the county, was named for the town of Frankfort, and organized as a civil township on April 6, 1891.

GREAT BEND TOWNSHIP

Great Bend Township, in the central part of the county, was named for the great bend in the James River which occurs in that township. Some of the early settlers wanted to locate the county seat in the township. It was organized as a civil township on July 9, 1886.

GROVELAND TOWNSHIP

Groveland Township, in the extreme west central part of the county, was so named because of the ten-acre grove planted in the township by A. H. Dow, who came to the county in 1880. The grove was used as a picnic ground. The township was organized as a civil township on August 17, 1885.

HARMONY TOWNSHIP

Harmony Township, in the east central part of the county, was named for Harmony Township in Minnesota, by Frank Craig, a county commissioner, who came from that place. It was organized as a civil township on August 17, 1885.

GARFIELD TOWNSHIP

Garfield Township is located in the southwestern part of the county. It was named for President James A. Garfield, and organized as a civil township on January 13, 1886.

Among the early settlers of Garfield Township, were: Bruce Hoyt, John Miller, A. J. Price, William MacNeil, William P. Price, George Kahler, Orville Crockett, the Gilby family, Daniel Lewis, Burton Andrews, Rudolph Josewski, George Sickles, Eli Mason, the Wrights, Mr. Reynolds, the Randolphs, the Richardsons, Bert Philbrick, Albert Zebell, Mr. Friede, Mr. Gresenger, Samuel Harding, George Harding, Tom J. Price, and Willis F. Price. Many of the settlers came in 1881 to 1885. The Chicago and Milwaukee Railroad was built through the township in 1883. Many of the men assisted in building the grade for the roadbed. This work helped pay living expenses. At this time, there was no market for farm produce and money was scarce. It was difficult to feed the stock in the winter. After the railroad was built, people were more prosperous.

Albert Zebell came from Minnesota settling in the north part of the township. As he was the first section foreman, he had to supply the coal and water for the locomotives. This required a crew to care for the upkeep of the tracks and the filling of the coal buckets. Mr. Zebell walked to his work each day for twenty years. His family did the farm work. Two of his daughters, Mrs. Lillie Brugger, and Mrs. Jesse Brugger now live in Huron.

The town of Spotswood in Garfield Township, had a postoffice for five years. The postmaster, Floyd Hoyt, was assisted by his wife, Amelia, from 1886 to 1890. Eli H. Mason was postmaster from 1890 to 1891 at which time the postoffice was discontinued. Martin Keller then operated a small store there for a few years. Spotswood was subsequently a grain market only.

One-half mile south and one-half mile west of Spotswood, a grist mill was built by Mr. Randolph and was operated a few years. This same man had a patent on the straw stacker for grain elevators.

A son of one of the homesteaders, Frank Wright, became a famous surgeon in Minneapolis.

Early on the morning of July 21, 1883, a cyclone destroyed a home, killing five members of the Gresenger family; the father, mother, two children, and the grandfather. All were buried near the house and a monument was erected, enclosed by a picket fence. This farm is now owned by Emil Kloss. Two children survived, a baby and a five-year old. As adults they again visited the community and arranged a re-burial in the well-kept Garfield cemetery. A two-acre plot was donated from his homestead by Reverend Burton Andrus. As a result of this storm, Mr. Johnson built a stone house in a hillside. This house is occupied today, the present owner being Willis Boyd.

At the present time Garfield Township is highly mechanized and has great potential. Aquifer is just beneath the surface and is being used by Erwin Hilkemeier, Max Neitzel, and Dave Rainbolt for irrigation purposes. They have had good results. The sugar industry is beginning the raising of sugar beets in Garfield Township.

HARRISON TOWNSHIP

Harrison Township, in the southeast part of the county, was first known as Irving Township for the postoffice. It was organized as a civil township on September 2, 1890, and later reorganized into the civil township of Harrison on April 6, 1891. It was named for President Benjamin Harrison, the name being suggested for the township by A. R. Fryer, who circulated a petition securing names for the organization of the township. H. C. Cobb, John Myers and John McGee were members of the first township board.

Among the early settlers were the James Fryer family, and the E. C. Perkins family who came in 1883.

C. W. Perkins was one of the first children born in the township.

LAKE TOWNSHIP

Lake Township, in the southwest part of the county was so named because it had within its boundaries Cottonwood Lake and Mud Lake. It was organized as a civil township on September 21, 1885.

LINCOLN TOWNSHIP

Lincoln Township, in the south central part of the county, was named for President Abraham Lincoln. It was organized as a civil township on September 2, 1890. The boundaries were changed on September 5, 1892.

MELLETTE TOWNSHIP

Mellette Township, in the extreme northwestern part of the county, was named for the town of Mellette. It was organized as a civil township on July 16, 1885.

Among the early settlers in the township were the following: C. M. Cowles, W. J. Stephans, Mr. Geary, 1879; Wm. Waterbury, Emil Brown, B. S. Flint, Mr. Farnham, Mr. Thompson, 1880; Hartwell Cady, Rev. Robert Hardie, H. N. Hanson, Joseph DeLoy, Wm. F. Blain, H. C. Palmer, Mr. Sello, Mr. Antherson, 1881; True Woodman Childs, Will Kaniph, G. W. Gange, Al Gange, Jacob E. Lau, C. C. Elliot, Mr. Peck, Mr. Williams, 1882; Geo. LaCorie, G. A. Brownell, 1883.

The first birth in the township was that of George Farnham, October 9, 1881.

The Methodist Church was organized jointly with Northville in 1883, by Rev. J. Cressey of Minnesota, who was visiting his daughter, Mrs. Dora Childs.

OLEAN TOWNSHIP

Olean Township, in the northeastern part of the county, was named for Olean, New York, the original home of J. E. Barnes, an early settler in the township. It was organized as a civil township on September 2, 1880. The township was later divided (November 10, 1890), the east part retaining the name while the west part was called Benton.

On October 6, 1890, the first officers were appointed by the county commissioners, to serve until the first regular township meeting, as follows: J. R. Taylor, Chairman, Wm. Daven, and David Brosseau.

The township then known as Hall Township was organized July 24, 1890. The officers appointed were: H. J. Hall, Chairman, M. Matheny, and S. Langworthy.

The entire county was divided into nineteen school townships on April 27, 1883.

Among the earliest settlers were: E. P. Cunningham, and family, wife, Isa B. daughter Lutie B., and son Clark W., who arrived on their homestead March 1, 1883. Philip Probst arrived at the same time. During the same spring all of the River Falls community was settled. Robert Taylor and family, George Taylor and family, Fanny Taylor, J. C. Hurst, and family, Kimball Currier and family including Fred, Daniel Currier and son Walter, N. D. Wales and sister Aggie, Jack Carruthers, Mrs. Edsall, John Parsons and wife, David Kissack, Charles Clark, and Nellie Nelson.

The first baby born in the township was Carrie Vance Cunningham, April 13, 1883, on the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 119, Range 60 West.

Walter Currier and Carrie Swanson, originally of River Falls, Wisconsin, were married in Watertown, May 25, 1883. Walter had erected his house in Olean Township previous to the marriage and they established their home there immediately.

There never was a church building nor a church organization in Olean Township; however, Sunday School and church services were begun June 3, 1883 and held in homes and school buildings for some time.

The first teacher was Henrietta Cameron, who taught in the spring and summer of 1883, and again in the spring and summer of 1884. By the spring of 1885, the schoolhouses were ready and Henrietta Cameron taught the first school in the one just east of Turton, prior to the establishment of that town.

PRAIRIE CENTER TOWNSHIP

Prairie Center Township, in the east central part of the county, was named by L. E. Wood, a member of the county board. According to Mr. Wood, he proposed the name because it was the center of the prairie with no trees, rivers, or mountains. It was organized as a civil township on April 6, 1891.

REDFIELD TOWNSHIP

Redfield Township, in the southwest part of the county, was named for Redfield, the county seat. It was organized as a civil township on September 2, 1889.

In 1881 Buffalo Bill, escorting Sitting Bull to Washington for a conference, with the President, brought him to Redfield (before taking the train the next morning) where they stayed over night, at the Foster House. On the return trip, they again stayed at the Foster House.

During the last Indian uprising, again Buffalo Bill and one of his showmen, Pony Bob, were sent by General Miles with orders to arrest Sitting Bull. They got as far as Redfield, and stayed all night on December 15, 1890, at the Foster House. During the night word came to them to turn back since Sitting Bull had been killed by the Indian Police.

A pack of playing cards in the Redfield Museum, formerly belonging to Buffalo Bill, was given to Lou Barrows as the two later reminisced about these early experiences during a train trip from Los Angeles to San Diego when Barrows was serving as freight conductor in transporting the Buffalo Bill Show between the two California cities.

December 6, 1886, A. J. Maurey presented the George H. Thomas Post No. 5 G.A.R., a flag and it is claimed that this was the first flag that ever flew over the city of Redfield.

J. J. Hagman, was probably the first Post member, buried in Redfield Cemetery.

On May 28, 1887, motion was made to observe Memorial Day and decorate the grave of Comrade J. J. Hagman.

Whether Edward Barnes was the last elected commander of the Post, the records do not indicate, but Levi Van Voorhis, as surviving member of the Post, was acting Commander.

RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP

Richfield Township, in the southeast part of the county, was thus named because one of the early settlers said the whole township looked like a rich field of grain. It was organized as a civil township on April 6, 1891.

SPRING TOWNSHIP

Spring Township, in the east central part of the county, was named because of the Nelson Springs within its boundaries. It was organized as a civil township on September 6, 1897.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

Jefferson Township in the west central part of the county was organized as a civil township, July 5, 1897. It was named for Jefferson Lower, the first postmaster at Clyde, who was born in Jefferson County, New York. A successful forty-niner, he was robbed by Indians enroute home and returned penniless to New York. He then decided to go to Dakota Territory.

Hattie Lower Robinson and Charles Weiland were among the first white children born in the Township.

LA PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP

La Prairie Township located in the extreme north central part of the county was named by a Mr. Parie, a French fur-trader who then lived at Armadale. It was organized as a civil township on August 17, 1885.

The following early settlers came to the township in 1879; James B. Churchill, Henry Churchill, Charles F. Leonard and Tom Kittesland. In 1880 Wilbert Wells arrived, as did also M. G. Bromaghem, the Skidmore family, C. M. Markham, William Walkron, George White, R. O. Halverson, R. H. McCaughey, W. A. McCaughey, R. F. Reynolds, Hans Tolvstad, Marvin Tolvstad, and F. E. Luce. W. M. Burgess, K. O. Kittlesland and B. W. Chandler arrived in 1881. Wm. Buckley, George Baker, Angus Bell, Charles Hackett, Jason Jenkins, George Ugland, and Charles Maynard arrived in 1882.

In 1883 the following came: R. S. Cowie, W. S. Gregory, John Harris, Nicholas Miller, George Mann, J. R. Neill, Henry Walkens, Perry Strong, Mathias Standaker.

In 1884 S. C. Black and the Calhoun family arrived. John K. Haaminers arrived in 1885; William Eske and G. H. Frazer in 1886; R. B. McCaughey and J. S. Gould in 1887.

Most of the above pioneers came from Minnesota, New York, Wisconsin, Germany and Norway.

One of the first marriages in the township was that of Mr. and

Mrs. R. O. Halverson in 1881. Their daughter, Emma, born in 1882, was the first child born in the township. She is now Mrs. Emma Swenson, living at Dun Center, North Dakota.

Among the first schools in the township were: The McCaughey School organized in 1883; the Markham School in 1885; School No. 3 in 1887; the Bromaghem School in 1889; and the S. S. Gerrett School organized in 1890.

Two of the first teachers were Robert McCaughey who taught the McCaughey School and Bert Cample, teacher of School No. 3.

LODI TOWNSHIP

Lodi Township in the southwest central part of the county was named for Lodi, Wisconsin by the early settlers who came from that town. It was organized as a civil township on July 24, 1890.

Among the early settlers were: E. H. Allen, C. L. Holcomb, W. F. Deiter, H. C. Cole, William Warden, John Austin, John Walker, Mrs. Hemingway, and Mr. Lincoln.

The first child born in the township was Roy L. Cole, on April 17, 1881. The first marriage was that of John Walker and Mrs. Hemingway.

NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP

Northville Township is in the extreme northwest part of the county. It was originally named Gair by John Bushell, postmaster in Northville, for a friend of his. Bushell promised to dig a well for the town if the township was so named, which promise he kept, locating the well west of the main street.

Later, the township was renamed for the town of Northville. However, the school district which composed all of the township, retained the name of Gair. The township was organized as a civil township on November 16, 1885. Early officers in the township were Hugh Mair, George Woodford, and William Boekelheide.

The settlers who came to Northville Township in 1880 were: J. R. Thompson, T. R. Thompson, C. K. Thompson, James Curtin, C. M. Cassett, H. E. Bruns, Carl Berndt, and Judge Coleman. Those arriving in 1881 were: W. J. Percival, C. D. Gilbert, G. L. Harrington, Anton Keese, Ed Martin, W. B. Webb, A. U. Parry, R. J. Percival, Sam Donahur, James Percy, and Hugh Montgomery. Those arriving in 1882 were: Ed. Peterson, W. H. Peterson, Russel Peterson, Frank Nash, Frank C. Marriner, C. J. Marriner, Maurice Moriarty, Ezra Martin, W. R. Clarke, Thomas Sterling, Frank Karuff, August Schnidtger, William Stanfield, C. H. Smith, Hiugh Mair, Henry Heidenreich, William Boekelheide, Gustav Steger, Howard Perry, John Peterson, Fred Stater, G. R. Woodford, and W. A. Clarke. Reverend W. P. Martin came in 1883.

The first baby in the township was Arthur Bruns who was born October 18, 1880.

The first marriage in the township took place October 12, 1882, in the Wesleyan Methodist Church when Reverend Martin performed the ceremony for his son Ezra, and Mary Thompson.

Among the prominent people born in the township was A. A. Martin. He was born September 24, 1885. After studying for the ministry, in 1915 he went to India where he served as a missionary for thirty-five years.

Theodore Thompson was born in Northville November 1, 1886. After he graduated from the University of Nebraska he was elected Dean of Student Affairs and member of the Athletic Board. He served in both of these offices for twenty-five years.

Of the 160 territorial pioneers, 81 are still living in South Dakota; 24 of them claim Mellette as their postoffice, and 16 Northville. Two of the pioneers who were born in Northville still live there.

From 1896 to 1906 Northville was the grain terminal of the Northwest. Five different milling companies owned elevators there and grain was brought in from a radius of thirty-five miles.

SUMNER TOWNSHIP

Sumner Township, in the northeastern part of the county, was named for Sumner Township, Illinois, by J. E. Labrie, the first resident of the township, who came from Manteno, Sumner Township, Illinois. It was organized as a civil township on September 2, 1890.

The first child born in the township was Ferdinand Steffes, born November 22, 1881. He now lives in Alberta, Canada.

THREE RIVERS TOWNSHIP

On March 1, 1892, a meeting was called at the home of John Clifford to organize a civil township. A petition to form a civil township was signed by all of the voters and granted. On March 15, 1892, a special meeting was called to elect the first township officers. The following were elected:

W. B. West, Redfield	Clerk
A. S. Hall, Redfield	Justice of the Peace
J. N. Parker, Athol	Justice of the Peace
Henry Herold, Ashton	Constable
Henry Eggler, Redfield	Constable
Dennis Clifford, Redfield	Poundmaster
D. Brubaker, Ashton	Road Overseer, No. 1
J. N. Parker, Athol	Road Overseer, No. 2
A. S. Hall, Redfield	Road Overseer, No. 3
C. G. Bickford, Redfield	Road Overseer, No. 4

The township, located in the west central part of the county, was named for the three rivers within its borders: the Snake River, which flows into the James River near Ashton; the Turtle River, which flows into the James River near Redfield; and the James River which runs from north to south through the eastern part of the township.

Some of the early settlers were: John Clifford, 1879, Frank Beardsley, 1879, Henry Eggler, 1884, Dennis Clifford, 1880, H. D. Marlett,

Hall, R. Kneisel.
1882, D. Hagman, 1882, J. Ward, 1879, T. O. Childs, P. Runsen, A. S.

One of the first marriages was that of E. Klebsch and Sadie Ward on April 15, 1884, in Old Ashton.

The first schoolhouse in Spink County was built by a Mr. Spicer of Watertown, on a one-acre plot in Three Rivers Township, on the Northeast corner of the Northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 117, Range 64, acquired from the land of Philip Runser, Sr. It has been related by some of the old-timers that the lumber for the school was hauled from Watertown with oxen and that John Clifford was one of the men who helped haul it.

A. Stanley Hall and Roswell Bottum were directors of the school. They engaged Mr. Hall's sister, Florence Hall, to teach the first three months, beginning in July, 1880. Other early teachers of the school were: Misses Georgia Ellis, and Ada Draper. Among the earliest pupils were: Robert and Anna Runser, Robert Kneisel, William and Charles Baker, Robert Simmons, Lucy Tubbs, Charles and William Sweet, and Lida and Ruth Bowman.

The school was occupied for school purposes for nearly fifty years and then was replaced by a new building on the same site named Hill Crest school, District No. 12. The original building was moved to a site on Highway 281, on the W. W. Baldwin farm four miles north of Redfield, where it still stands, and has for the past thirty years been in use by the officials of Three Rivers Township and Farmers Union Local No. 413.

Church and Sunday School was for many years held in this same schoolhouse.

Some of the known people born in the township were: Essie Clark, Verda Baldwin, Pearl Welke, Lydia Hagman, all members of the Henry Eggler family; Bertha Moore, Edward Klebsch, Bessie Dvorak, all members of the Klebsch family, and Frank Vincent, and Charles Marlette, Mildred and Louise Marlette.

It was to the James River in Three Rivers Township that the Indian, Inkpaduta, brought the kidnapped girl, Abbie Gardner.

A mile north of Turtle River, or three miles north, and one and one-half miles east of Redfield, was the original site of the Indian Council Stone. In 1892, the original stone was stolen. In 1939 the D.A.R. with the help of Mr. Lester Black of Redfield, made a reproduction of the original. A monument in honor of the original historical spot now stands on the old school site about twenty rods south of the original site. Along the James River many dugouts may still be seen and Indian relics can be found in fields near the river.

TULARE TOWNSHIP

Tulare Township, in the southwestern part of the county, was named for the town of Tulare. It was organized as a civil township on August 17, 1885. A special meeting was held Saturday, August 29, 1885, at the schoolhouse in the village of Tulare.

O. S. Brasford was chairman of the County Commissioners when Tulare Township was organized.

The first township officers included L. Stegner and Ira Dorcus, whose term expired in 1888.

The Milwaukee Railroad had reached Tulare in 1883, at which time the town had been started, and more than half of the people of Crandon had moved to Tulare.

Fanny Ball was the first baby born in the township.

Early families residing in the township in 1885, were: Harrisons,

Balls, Alpheus Boyd, John L. Smart, James Avery, Charles Stevens, Sr., Frederick Schwichtenberg, August, Herman, and Carl Schwichtenberg, Carl Wagoner, Herman Neitzel, Sr., Albert Neitzel, Balsingers, Herman Morin, Sr., Wm. Willett, Tozonas, Barney Huehls, August Schultz.

TETONKA TOWNSHIP

Tetonka Township is located in the north central part of the County. It was named for the postoffice of Tetonka. The name means "buffalo" in the Sioux language, and W. H. Hedges is credited with naming it.

This part of the county has an unusual and exciting history. By the terms of the Laramie Treaty in 1868, the James River Valley was ceded to the U. S. Government by the Indians. It was then the usual procedure to survey the land and open it for settlement, with the railroads soon following. However this was not to be. Drifting Goose, a Sioux chief, resisted the surveyors, and the settlers, saying he had not agreed to give away the land of his fathers. On June 27, 1879, President Hayes officially set aside three townships for Drifting Goose and his band. The west half of Tetonka township was included in this tract. The chief demanded that the settlers move out, he threatened and terrorized the valley, but he did not take a single life. Some settlers left and the railroads changed their routes in order to miss the Reservation. Then, on July 23, 1880, President Hayes revised his order, and the townships were returned to the public domain.

Tetonka was organized as a civil township on December 2, 1890 by act of the County Commissioners and comprises Township 119, Range 62, and that part of Township 119, Range 63 on the east side of the James River.

This is the opening entry in the first Tetonka Township Clerk's Record Book. The first town meeting was held March 3, 1891, in the County of Spink at the Wallar Schoolhouse on the northeast corner of the northeast quarter of Section 30. Emil G. Bohl was chosen Moderator, after the meeting was called to order by Clerk E. L. Noyes. Harris Haven, Frank Wallar, and George Towne, were chosen Judges. In the election that followed, thirteen votes were cast and the following were elected: E. L. Noyes, Clerk; Harris Haven, Treasurer; F. A. Wallar, Assessor; R. W. Towne, S. R. Davis, Justices of the Peace; E. G. Bohl, B. L. Smith, Constables; William Uitch, Chairman of Supervisors; G. G. Smith, R. C. Styles, J. W. Akers, Thomas Jones, William Howie, and Charles Fridley, Overseers of Roads.

On July 18, 1891 the Board of Supervisors met and drew the following names for jurors: P. H. Clarke, J. W. Akers, and R. C. Styles.

Among the pioneers born in Tetonka Township were Edith M. Allbee, born in 1885, Howard W. Allbee, born in 1887, Mrs. Elsie Bindenagel, Pearl Clark, Clifford Clarke, Mrs. Leonard Fridley, Julian Smith, Herman Haven, Gene Wallar, Mrs. Marie Clark. Among those living in the township prior to 1889 were: Leonard Fridley, and Orva Hammer.

At the county election held in the fall of 1880, the following Tetonka Township residents were elected: Daniel McNabb, Judge of Probate; Louis Kneisel, Sheriff; and N. H. Hedges, Surveyor.

Dr. Judson Smith of Los Angeles spent twenty-one years playing in the Major Leagues of baseball. He started as a player with the Rose Postoffice Team in the early Eighties.

Guy Emmett Clark, one of the first children born in the township, December 2, 1882, died September, 1885. Joe Spencer Clark, and Lide Ruth Clark, twins, were born to William and Lura Clark on January 5, 1887.

One of the earliest marriages was that of Robert Mitchell and Ella Clark on December 25, 1882.

Lew Whitman died in the summer of 1879, and was buried in the James River bank where they thought it was not likely to be plowed. This land, the Southeast quarter of Section 9, Township 119, Range 63, later belonged to William Durkee.

W. J. Cullings disappeared from his home on April 12, 1884. His body was found in the James River May 16, 1884. He had been murdered. A neighbor, tried and acquitted, left the county. Cullings was buried on the Northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 119, Range 63, of the Hedges farm.

Jacob G. and Phoebe J. Spencer, homesteaders from Ontario, Canada, were members of the Society of Friends. On March 18, 1883 they held Sabbath School in their home with three scholars and two teachers. The Bible Class with two scholars was taught by J. G. Spencer, and the infant class with one scholar, by Mrs. Phoebe Spencer. The attendance through November, 1883, increased to seventeen pupils.

Three-fourths of a mile west of the Spencer home was an old granary which was used for a schoolhouse. In 1883 it was replaced by a new schoolhouse built by E. L. Noyes. For many years this was known as the Kiser School and was also used for church services and other social gatherings. The Sunday school held here and organized by the Spencers, was known as "Rose Union Sunday School".

There is still a trace of an old Indian trail in Tetonka Township in the pasture located on the Northwest quarter of Section 9, and on the Northeast quarter of Section 9, Township 119, Range 62.

The earliest school census was taken in 1883 by P. H. Clarke.

There were eighty children of school age that year. Some of the early teachers were: Jono E. Webb, E. R. Harmon, Mattie Fox, H. Richardson, Mike Matheny, Alberta Bull, Florence Wheeler, Irwin Waite, Ada Robertson, Daisy Styles, G. W. Brandt, William Gibberd, Mora Clarke, Luella Child, and Isabelle Hutchinson.

TURTON TOWNSHIP

Turton Township, in the central part of the county, was named for the town of Turton, and was organized as a civil township on March 1, 1892. It was originally a part of Sumner Township, organized September 1, 1890. The township was divided October, 1905.

Some of the earliest settlers, who came in the 1880's, included: John Mahan, Solomon Mannie, and his family of seven sons, Edward, Levi, Charles, Joe, John, Fred, and Ambrose, Joe and Norbert Barrie, Julian Remily, and the wives of those above mentioned.

Mrs. Gladys Ritz, (nee Mannie) was the first baby baptized from Turton Township, (born February 7, 1910).

The first teachers were: 1909-1910, Marte Watson, Eugene Hager.

The enrollment of pupils for 1910-1911 included: Emma Barrie (Mrs. Wayne Lawson, Huron, South Dakota; Eva Barrie (deceased); Laurence Barrie, Turton, South Dakota; Leon Barrie, Turton, South Dakota; Norbert Barrie, Downey, California; Phoebe Barrie (Mrs. Ray Norton), Conde, South Dakota; Blanche Deslauriers (Mrs. Frank Campbell (deceased); Harvey DesLauriers, Raymond, S. Dak.; Jule DesLauriers, (deceased); Castle Fortin (Mrs. Lester Understock), Clark, South Dakota; Ina Fortin, Watertown, South Dakota; Loretta Fortin (Deslauriers); Mrs. Emil Peterson; Myrtle Fortin (Mrs. Jule Remily (deceased); Celia Poiriers; Mrs. Amy Fortin, Turton, South Dakota, Leo Poiriers, Clark, South Dakota; Teachers for the 1910-1911 term were A. J. Englehard, and May Richardson.

The town of Turton was incorporated as a city about 1908, but had been a commercial, religious and educational center before that time.

UNION TOWNSHIP

Union Township located in the extreme southeast part of the county, was organized as a civil township on July 16, 1886.

It was named by unanimous consent of the settlers, some of whom had served in the Union Army in the Civil War. Attending the meetings to discuss the organization were: Wm. Hickman, C. L. Thomas, C. H. Thompson, Wm. Hirkhart, E. B. Martin, L. N. Schuler, H. R. Johnson, J. A. Hickman, E. Ebbert, H. H. Bird, E. Patterson, H. Bauman, and S. A. Richardson.

Early settlers of 1881, 1882, and 1883 include: B. B. Wells, L. A. Drake, Charles Hall, John Krauss, Chris Wacker, Henry Schumacher, F. Saunders, B. Goodwin, L. E. Cunningham, George Bartman, John Churton, Albert Williams, L. N. Keeler, S. J. Westcott, Mrs. John Walbridge, J. N. Cook, S. J. Goodwin, E. Dryer, E. W. Foster, Mrs. A. Labrie, Allen Brocker, Miss J. Anderson, F. M. Farnsworth, Frank Bradey, C.

Bebin, C. Dunkel, Rosa B. Riggs, Mrs. Garrap, A. Richardson, C. E. Holmes, John Timathry, W. W. Bryers, S. C. Cook, Mary E. Bird, George Carr, Semone Cook, C. L. Thomas, Levi Richardson, Captain E. B. Gates, Scarlett, F. Benton, Wm. Hirkhart, James Bird, Frank Richardson, Edith Frank Richardson, Charles Halbrook, John Ward, J. Jensen, Mrs. Mason, J. H. Davis, Frank Graves, E. H. Lasey, K. Demmit, Richard Lewis, John McCarty, J. H. Hickman, D. D. Kidder, W. M. Hickman, B. F. Steenhof, Wm. Schmidt, August Schmidt, D. Shannon, Gilbert Vanderstein, and John Wallbridge.

Records of 1886 show there were fifty-eight men, thirty-six women, sixty-three boys under the age of twenty-one, and forty-one girls, or a total of one hundred ninety-eight people in the township.

The assessed valuation of personal property was $12,419. Acres under cultivation averaged from fifteen to two hundred seventy-five per owner. There were few cattle and swine.

The LaDelle School District consisted of Union, Capitola, and the east one-half of Antelope Townships.

Three schools were built in Union Township in 1885-1886. They were known as Lyons, Drake and Demmit. First teachers were Mr. Sanders, Bertha O'Shome, Lottie Hix, Maud Berry, Mabel Berry, Fanny Bird, Lillian Thomas, Eddie Nothing, Edith Churton, Calvin Brown, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Smith, Addie Dreblaw, Mrs. L. A. Drape. The school term was six months and the teachers' salaries were twenty-five dollars per month.

No churches were built in Union Township in pioneer days but church and Sunday school were held in the schoolhouses.

There were many antelope and coyotes in this township in the 1880's. Flocks of wild geese were so enormous that settlers would chase them from their fields in order to save their grain.

Prairie fires sometimes destroyed crops and grassland for a distance of twenty miles. Some of the settlers lost everything they had as a result of these fires.

TOWNS OF THE PLAINS

Chapter Four

A LISTING OF ALL TOWNS, POST OFFICES, AND COMMUNITIES IN SPINK COUNTY

The names of towns, post offices, communities in Spink County reveal the types of people who settled it, and the nature of the County itself.

One questions why the lure of the west was strong enough to attract so many highly desirable citizens from the eastern states, and the various European countries.

One is not surprised when he finds that from the many who came to the county few remained. Unable to bear the hardships of pioneer life they returned to their former homes. The sod shanties and the claim shacks that still dot the prairies offer sharp contrast to the modern homes of the pioneers who remained.

Names of European origin such as Clyde, Conde, Cornwall, and Athol are interfused with those of American derivation such as Tetonka, Cottonwood, and Bloomfield. Others like Domino, Rose, Armadale, Adelaide, and Ashton conjure romantic and historical tales of the sites and of the people associated with them. None suggest the harshness or the bleakness of the topography. Few suggest the tragedy, hardships, and loneliness, that the pioneers endured during their first years in the county. Many like Hillcrest, Fair View, and Mountain are environmental. Some, such as Armadale, are fanciful, but most are the plain, ordinary, useful names reflecting the substantial characters of their donors.

Adelaide	May 16, 1910	Catherine T. Nelson
Allegheny	August 10, 1882	John E. Barnes
Armadale (See Old Ashton)		
Athol	September 28, 1881	Edwin B. Alden
	(Originally Myrtle City)	
Bangor	February 5, 1883	Arthur H. Dow
Belcher's Ford	July 2, 1879	Fred W. Rogers
Beotia	June 26, 1882	Edwin J. Stegner
Boz	July 21, 1886	Jennie W. Garrett
	(Formerly Pleasant Ridge)	
Brentford	December 22, 1906	George A. Mann
Bright	August 19, 1887	Rolla Evarts
Burns	June 6, 1881	Lewis Pratt
Clyde	November 14, 1879	Theodore Lower
Conde	March 19, 1887	Emery Holliday
	(Formerly Coral)	
Crandon	December 2, 1881	Joseph P. Christie
	(Formerly Parmelee, Porter, Minden, Stennette)	
Doland	November 23, 1882	Wm. M. Rogers
Foster City	August 18, 1879	C. B. Foster
	(Changed to Armadale)	
	May 26, 1881 by	James B. Churchill

Frankfort	September 18, 1882	Melvin J. Starr
	(Formerly Foster, Hawarden)	
Grobe	March 21, 1882	Frank Bastian
Henika	July 25, 1882	Frank Henika
Hitchcock		
Hastings	October 13, 1879	John W. Lang
Irving	January 2, 1883	Wallace F. Paker
LaDelle	May 18, 1883	Nehamiah Hall
Mansfield	October 23, 1882	John Mansfield
May	November 13, 1883	Elmer Darling
Mellette	December 22, 1881	Wm. T. Dale
Northville	December 14, 1881	Joseph Elsom
Old Ashton	July 2, 1879	George Bowman
	(First called Ashton, then Creston, then Old Ashton. Present town of Ashton is 5½ miles north of former site.)	
Redfield	May 12, 1880	Frank S. Myers
	(First known as Stennett or Stennett Junction.)	
Ridge	July 21, 1882	Edwin J. Cheney
Rose	July 5, 1882	Ethel L. B. Smith
Sumner	March 21, 1882	Anatole F. Labrie
Tetonka	November 8, 1880	Clarence W. Mitchell
Tulare	January 7, 1884	Ira Dorcas
Turton	July 2, 1884	Joseph C. Fortin
	(Formerly St. Paul)	

ADELAIDE

A postoffice and elevator siding four miles south of Mansfield. The postoffice was established May 16, 1910, with Catherine T. Nelson as postmistress. The office was discontinued March 15, 1914 and mail was ordered sent to Conde. Platted by the Dakota Town Lot Company, a corporation of Codington, South Dakota, with Thomas A. Way of Watertown as President, and Clyde Way as Secretary. The Minnesota, Dakota & Pacific Railroad built through this town in 1906-1907. Named by Thomas A. Way for a friend. A grocery store was erected and other lots sold by the railroad company. Because of the rural free delivery the town did not materialize.

ALLEGHENY

A postoffice established August 10, 1882, with John E. Barnes as postmaster. The origin of the name cannot be found. The office was discontinued December 8, 1882, and mail was ordered sent to Beotia.

ALTOONA

See Hitchcock

ARMADALE

An island in the James River, in the northern part of the county, seven miles northeast of Mellette. The island was first known as Drifting Goose Island, named for the chief of the band of Sioux Indians who lived there in 1879. The island contains 100 acres of land and is surrounded by the James River and its branches. There is an open space in the center large enough for a half mile race track. This picturesque island has been the playground and recreational center of Spink County and Brown County for over half a century. Much history is connected with the island. Here

Drifting Goose and a band of Sioux warriors camped for many winters, for Drifting Goose Reservation consisted of four sections of land close to the island. The west line of the Reservation came to the section line one mile east of the town of Mellette. As the Indians had trouble with the settlers, in the summer of 1880 the Government opened the land for settlement. There are caves and wallows on the banks of the river where the Indians stored corn for future use. To the northwest, just across the old river bed is an old burying ground. The graves and the markings are still intact. Relic seekers have requested the privilege of delving into the graves in search of curios, but the owners have refused to allow this practice. A postoffice was established on the island on August 18, 1879, and named Foster City by and for C. B. Foster, an early settler and store keeper. Originally he had lived at Fort Sisseton, the Indian Reservation, and spoke the Sioux language fluently.

The first wedding in the county took place at Foster City, November 17, 1879, when Robert Love married Anna M. Whiteman. In 1880 the settlement consisted of four houses and the postoffice. The settlers were Don Shelton, James B. Foster, Matt Turner, and William Durkee.

When C. B. Foster moved away and James B. Churchill became postmaster on May 26, 1881, Churchill, not liking the name "Foster", and after successfully perusing the dictionary for a suitable name, coined the name of Armadale. The name has no particular significance. Churchill merely liked the word. The postoffice was discontinued November 3, 1886, re-established March 8, 1887. The office was finally discontinued April 14, 1890. Mail was ordered sent to Mellette.

ASHTON

A town, population 182, in Jefferson Township in the west central part of the County. Named for "Old Ashton." When the Milwaukee railroad was built through this section in 1881, the town site was platted and until 1884 was called "New Ashton" to distinguish it from the older town. In 1885 the territorial legislature, which met at Bismarck, passed an act which located the county seat at Ashton. The act contained a provision that at the next general election the location of the county seat should be submitted to vote. Records remained in Ashton for two years. Redfield then won the election and became the county seat.

ATHOL

A village, population 87, in Athol Township in the western part of Spink County. The postoffice was established September 28, 1881, with Edwin B. Alden as postmaster. The office has been in operation contiuously to date. Originally named Myrtle City for Myrtle Taylor, *the first child born in the vicinity.* When the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was completed to this point in 1881, the name was changed to Athol by the officials of the railroad. Named for James Murray, second duke of Athol, Scotland. One pioneer has a different account of the origin of the name. He says some of the first settlers came from Athol, Massachusetts, and named their new town for their former home.

BANGOR

A discontinued postoffice in the western part of the county, established February 5, 1883, with Arthur H. Dow as postmaster. Named for Bangor, Maine. The office was discontinued August 1, 1886, and the mail ordered sent to Redfield.

BASFORD CORNERS

A ghost settlement on the outskirts of Crandon, named because it was settled entirely by Basfords, including several brothers and their families, some nephews, and two or more brothers-in-law and their families. As some of the members had claim jumping proclivities, all sold their property and scattered to other parts of the county and state. Some returned East in 1885.

BELCHER'S FORD

A ford, with rock bottom and easy banks for teams, constructed in 1878, on the James River, in what is now known as Fisher's Grove, two miles west and ½ mile north of Frankfort. Named for a Mr. Belcher, a government employee whose duty it was to find the most suitable point for crossing the river. One pioneer erroneously reported that the first settler was "Old John Belcher," a rather dubious character who had fled from Illinois to escape the law. He kept a stage station and sold "forty rod" whiskey, a villainous concoction composed of alcohol, river water, plug tobacco, brown sugar, and a dash of cayenne pepper. It was said that a man who had a drink of it would be "under the table" before he had gone forty rods. *The first settlement in the county* was made near this place. A postoffice was established July 2, 1879, with Fred W. Rogers as postmaster. The office was discontinued June 28, 1883, and mail was ordered sent to Frankfort. With the advent of the railroad in August, 1882, Redfield, Ashton and Frankfort began to flourish, and the settlement soon died out.

BEOTIA

A discontinued post office established June 26, 1882, with Edwin J. Stegner as postmaster. Named by Ed. Borwell of Conde for his home town in England. The office was discontinued March 10, 1888.

BLOOMFIELD

A country store and gas station in section 36, of Antelope Township. Name chosen in a contest for a name because of surrounding abundant wheat fields.

BOZ

A postoffice formerly called Pleasant Ridge for its location. Established July 21, 1886, with Jennie W. Garrett as postmaster and re-named Boz at that time. The origin of the name has been lost. The office was discontinued September 30, 1909, and mail ordered sent to Tulare.

BRENTFORD

A town, population 96, in Tetonka Township in the north central part of the county. Laid out and named by the Dakota Town Lot Company, a corporation of Codington County, South Dakota, for Brentford, England, the home town of an employee of the Minneapolis and St. Louis railroad who suggested the name at the time the town was founded. The first postoffice was established December 22, 1906, with George A. Mann as postmaster. The town was incorporated August 3, 1910. It prides itself on maintaining a $150,000 school, one of the largest consolidated schools in the state.

BRIGHT

A discontinued postoffice in Mellette Township established August

19, 1887 with Rolla Evarts as postmaster. Named for John Bright, a pioneer who in turn was named for the English orator and statesman. The office was discontinued January 15, 1909. Mail was ordered sent to Mansfield.

BRUSH CENTER COLONY

A ghost pioneer settlement near Ashton. The origin of the name is unknown.

BURNS

A postoffice established June 6, 1881, with Lewis Pratt as postmaster. The original office was discontinued August 8, 1882. The origin of the name cannot be determined. Mail was ordered sent to Ashton.

CLARKSVILLE

See Hitchcock

CLYDE

A discontinued postoffice four miles north and two and one-half miles east of Ashton. Named for the Clyde River in Scotland by Judge McNabb, a pioneer. Established November 14, 1879, with Theodore Lower as postmaster. The office was discontinued April 2, 1883. Mail was ordered sent to Ashton.

CONDE

A town, population 388, in Conde Township, in the extreme northeast part of the county. In 1886 the Chicago & Northwestern railroad built the Doland-Groton branch as far as Ferney. The Western Town Lot Company purchased the Southwest quarter of Section 21, Township 120, Range 60, and platted the town in the fall of 1886. The place was first known as Coral and a postoffice was established March 19, 1887, with Emery Holliday as postmaster. The origin of this name is not known. On April 15, 1892, the name of the office was changed to Conde. Named by the wife of a railroad official, who was herself of French descent, for the titled Conde family of France, a name derived from the town and fortress of Conde. W. W. Rounds occupied the land at the close of the sale. As he did not sell the buildings but continued to live in them *he is considered the first settler of the town.*

Edward Borwell built the second home. A warehouse was built soon after by the Van Dusen Company and E. H. Bent was sent to take charge. The town was incorporated July 8, 1890.

CORAL

See Conde

CRANDON

A village in Crandon Township in the south part of the county. Founded in 1880 by the Western Town Lot Company. The postoffice was established December 2, 1881, with Joseph P. Christie as postmaster. The office was discontinued August 5, 1935. Mail was ordered sent to Redfield. First named Parmelee in 1880 by the railroad surveyors for J. E. Parmelee, whose claim adjoined the right of way about six miles toward the present Redfield. In the spring of 1881 the name was changed to Porter for Don Porter, the first settler who located adjoining the site of Crandon.

When the railroad construction reached this point, the name was changed to Minden, for Minden, Michigan, a one time lumber town, now almost extinct, by one of the railroad contractors whose home was in Minden, Michigan. In October, 1881, more settlers arrived, and the name was changed to Stennette for the wife of one of the directors of the railroad. As it did not look as if the town would ever amount to much, the lady objected, and the name was changed to Crandon for Frank P. Crandon, the chief engineer who surveyed the land for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad from Mitchell to Aberdeen.

CROSS ROADS STATION

A country gas station one-half mile west of Mellette. The name is self-explanatory. Built by A. J. Nelson in 1928 and sold to the Independent Oil Company of Doland in 1932. The station was closed March 1, 1943.

DIRT LODGES

A ghost village situated at Old Ashton. So named because of the queer manner the Indians had in making their rude, winter underground huts. The last Indian occupants were the Sioux Indians and their chief, Drifting Goose.

DOLAND

A town, population 481, in Spring Township in the southeast part of the county. The postoffice was established November 23, 1882 with William M. Rogers as postmaster. Named for F. H. Doland of Chicago, a member of the shoe firm of C. M. Henderson and Company, and of the Fargo Boot and Shoe Company, both of Chicago. He was also a director of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. He owned a 320 acre farm adjoining the present site of Doland, and had sufficient influence with the railroad to have the town located on his land. The south forty acres were laid out into lots of which he had a half interest. The original plan was to have the town located at the site of the Hastings postoffice. four miles west of its present location, but Fleet Lang, the landowner, refused to grant any concessions as far as a town site was concerned. The first house built in Doland was known as the Section House and was occupied by J. J. Kelly, later of the Jim River Bridge fame.

E. B. Korns and his brother opened the first law and real estate office. Early in 1883 Harmon G. Brown, a unique character known as Tobacco Brown, built the hotel known as "Tar Sides". He was an inveterate user of tobacco, and, when waiting on tables, he would carry a cup of coffee in one hand and a piece of tobacco in the other. The Fargo House, a popular hotel for many years, was built by D. P. Fargo in 1883. Doland was incorporated as a town January 28, 1888.

DOMINO

A ghost town laid in the geographical center of Spink County. Named for his favorite game by a child of the founder whose name had been forgotten. The place was never more than a few small houses and shacks. It faded from the map long ago.

DUXBURY

An elevator six miles north of Mellette. Named by the Milwaukee and St. Louis Railroad for a land owner, Mr. Duxbury.

FISHER'S GROVE

A public park (WPA) with picnic and recreational facilities, situated six miles east of Redfield near Belcher's Ford on the James River. Was developed in 1936 and 1937 in a heavy stand of timber. Named for Frank I. Fisher of Alton, Illinois, who on September 1878 established near the site of the grove *the first settlement in the county.*

Fred Rogers, a locating agent, who managed the only stagecoach in the county and made trips from Watertown to the grove, set up his land office there in July, 1879. Spink County's first Fourth of July celebration was held at the grove in 1880.

FOSTER

See Frankfort

FOSTER CITY

See Armadale

FRANKFORT

A town, population 240, in Frankfort Township in the central part of the county. First called Hawarden for Hawarden, Iowa by a group of early settlers who came from Iowa. The postoffice, known as Foster, was established September 18, 1882, with Melvin J. Starr as postmaster. Named for Colonel E. W. Foster, an officer in the Civil War, and one of the earliest settlers of the community. On October 16, 1882 the town was platted by the Western Town Lot Company, and the name changed to Frankfort. Named for Frank I. Fisher, a lawyer who explored this region in 1878. The town was incorporated August 14, 1883.

GALLUP

An elevator siding six miles north of Ashton. Built in 1915 on the homestead of Noyes Barbert Gallup, for whom it was named. Mr. Gallup came from Voluntown, New London County, Connecticut in 1881. The present elevator is the third elevator erected, as the first two burned.

GROBE

A discontinued postoffice seven miles north of Frankfort. Established March 21, 1882, with Frank Bastian as postmaster. Named for John Grobe, a homesteader who later died in the blizzard of January 12, 1888. The office was discontinued December 14, 1908. Mail was ordered sent to Frankfort.

HAGMAN'S GROVE

Native timber at the point where Turtle Creek joins the James

River three miles northeast of Redfield. Named in 1881 for the homesteader Christian Hagman. Well known as the first home in South Dakota for the Chinese Pheasant. Twenty-four pairs were imported in 1919 from a bird farm in Illinois by Harlan P. Packard, Bert Hagman, J. D. Fargo, and H. J. Schalkle of Redfield. The place was used as a picnic ground from the early eighties until after the first World War, when many of the trees died from the drought. For years, the German Methodists convened here for their summer camp meeting. In 1915 the South Dakota National Guard used the site for its encampment, and the state dug two artesian wells for the use of the guardsmen.

In 1916 the Fourth Regiment of the South Dakota Infantry was mobilized in the grove and remained in camp from June until August. At this time they left for the Mexican border where they remained nine months.

HALL'S PICNIC GROUNDS

A pioneer recreation center in Three Rivers Township. Named for the landowner.

HASTINGS

A ghost postoffice located in Township 117, Range 61, and Section 31, five and one-half miles west of Doland. Established October 13, 1879, with John W. Lang as postmaster. The office was discontinued August 31, 1885. Mail was ordered sent to Doland. Named for Ira Hastings, the second settler in Spink County. He squatted on the land in the fall of 1878. Settlers arriving in 1879 or in 1880 stayed either at Hastings or Belcher's Ford, as there were only two houses in the county at that time. The house at Hastings burned in 1884.

HAWARDEN

See Frankfort.

A discontinued postoffice in Sumner Township. Named for Hawarden, Iowa, by some of the early settlers who came from that place. The office was discontinued November 9, 1882, and mail was ordered sent to Frankfort.

HENIKA

A discontinued postoffice established July 25, 1882. Named for Frank Henika, the postmaster. The office was discontinued August 23, 1882. Mail was ordered sent to Tetonka.

HITCHCOCK

A town, population 193, in Belmont Township, Spink County, and in Altoona Township, Beadle County, located on the county line with the major portion of the business district in Beadle County, but a few of the residences in Spink County. The townsite was owned by Albert Keep of Chicago. Platted as Clarksville or Clarkesville, June 15, 1880. Named for an early settler. Incorporated as Altoona in 1885. Named for Altoona, Pennsylvania. The railroad changed the name of the station to

Hitchcock, and later the town adopted the same name in order to avoid confusion in getting the mail. Named for Charles Storer Hitchcock, immigration commissioner and owner of the land adjacent to the station.

HUTTERISCHE SOCIETY

See Russian Colony

IRVING

A ghost postoffice one mile north of Irving Church. Established January 2, 1883, with Wallace F. Parker as postmaster. The office was discontinued August 15, 1908. Mail was sent to Frankfort. Origin of the name is unknown.

LA DELLE

A postoffice and country store south of Doland. Named for a niece of the first postmaster, Nehamiah Hall, of Danville, Illinois. The postoffice was established May 18, 1883. The office was discontinued November 30, 1912. Mail was ordered sent to Carpenter. The store still stands and is the popular meeting place for the neighbors of the vicinity.

MANSFIELD

A village, population 135. In Mellette Township, in the extreme northwest part of the county. The north portion of the town is located in Brown County and the south part in Spink County, the main street being the dividing line. Named for John Mansfield, who formerly owned the land south of the main street in Spink County. The postoffice was established October 23, 1882, in Brown County with John Mansfield as postmaster. The office was moved into Spink County August 18, 1906, and back into Brown County April 21, 1920. It has been in operation in Brown County continuously to date.

MAY

A ghost postoffice established November 13, 1883, with Elmer Darling as postmaster. The office was discontinued August 10, 1885. Mail was ordered sent to Ashton. The exact location and the origin of the name have been forgotten.

MELLETTE

A town, population 208, in Mellette Township in the northeastern part of the county. Named for Arthur Mellette of Watertown, last Governor of Dakota Territory, and first Governor of South Dakota. He accented the first syllable of his name. Platted in 1881 by G. H. Prior, Superintendent of the Milwaukee railroad and townsite agent for the same road. It was the original intention to locate the city a mile north of its present location, but L. R. Hall made pre-emption filing on the intended location in 1881 and refused to sell. Mr. Prior purchased the present site August 4, 1881, from a Mr. Allen who had filed on it a few days earlier. The first building in the town was built by William T. Dale in December, 1881. The first postoffice was established December 22, 1881, with William T. Dale as postmaster. The town was incorporated in 1889 and re-incorporated as a city in 1908.

MOTLEY ISLAND

An island in the James River, eight miles east of Redfield. It forms a part of Fisher's Grove Park. Named for the State Representative H. H. Motley, of Spink County, who was largely instrumental in the development of the park.

MYRTLE CITY

See Athol

NORTHVILLE

A town, population 153, in Northville Township, in the extreme northwest part of the county. So named because the station was for some time the most northerly point on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. The postoffice was established December 14, 1881, with Joseph Elsom as postmaster. Since there were only a depot and a section house in the town and since the postmaster worked on the section, the postoffice was located in the depot. The Henry Arns family was the first family to live in the town. Ezra and Edwin Martin built the first general store in the year 1882. Thomas Sterling, later a United States Senator from South Dakota, came to Northville in 1883. At one time Northville was the largest grain shipping market on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. The extension of the Milwaukee road beyond Northville in 1907 had a ruinous effect on the town, for it stopped the trade from the west. Incorporated on April 25, 1893.

OLD ASHTON

The first county seat, located on the banks of the James River five and one-half miles south of the present Ashton. Named by a group of real estate dealers. Each dropped a name into a hat and the first name drawn, Ashton, was submitted by Warren Buell of Albert Lea, Minnesota. Undoubtedly the name was coined for the ash trees growing near the town site. A postoffice was established July 2, 1879, with George Bowman as postmaster. The name of the office was changed to Creston December 7, 1881, The origin of that name is unknown. The office was renamed Old Ashton January 26, 1882, and discontinued June 25, 1885. Mail was sent to Redfield.

OLD INDIAN VILLAGE

The remains of an Indian village twenty-four miles southeast of Redfield in Cornwall Township. There are about three acres of pasture land enclosing numerous stone circles ten feet each in diameter. The rocks half buried in the earth, weigh from twenty-five to fifty pounds each. It is supposed that these stones were used to anchor the various tents. The spring nearby furnished the water supply.

PARMELEE

See Crandon.

PRAIRIE CENTER

A ghost settlement six miles west and five miles south of Doland. It consisted of three sod shanties built about three blocks apart. One morning it was found that two of the houses had vanished. The settlers were mystified and the story spread that spirits had moved the structures. The owners refused to rebuild and left that section of the county. One of the families, a Clark family, returned to its former home in Wisconsin.

REDFIELD

The county seat of Spink County, population 2,952, in Redfield Township, in the central part of the county. Incorporated as a city in the spring of 1883. The original town was scripted by Albert W. Hard, who very soon deeded the tract to Albert Keep, an act which was practically deeding the site to the Western Town Lot Company. The east side of the city was scripted by E. W. Foster, F. I. Fisher, Captain Parsons, and others. In 1881 all sold their shares to Fisher and Foster. The land was then platted as Fisher's & Foster's Addition. On May 12, 1880, the first postoffice, known as Stennett or Stennett Junction, was established with Frank S. Myers as postmaster. Mr. Stennett was a high official of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. The town was called a junction because the James Valley division and the Pierre and Watertown divisions of the Northwestern railroad crossed at this point. On February 7, 1881, the name of the postoffice was changed to Redfield. Named for James Barlow Redfield, an auditor of the Northwestern railroad. He had no part in the founding of the town, other than his connection with the railroad running through the then infant prairie town. As early as 1908, a sportsman introduced the Chinese ringnecked Pheasant into Spink County. So outstanding have the hunting facilities been that Redfield has become known as the Pheasant City.

Redfield has the distinction of having had to take up arms in a struggle over the site of the county seat. A controversy was started with Old Ashton in 1880 and was not settled until 1886 when Redfield legitimately won the election for the county seat.

RIDGE

A discontinued postoffice in Lake Township established in 1886, July 21, with Edwin J. Cheney as postmaster. So named because the postoffice was built on the crest of a hill. The office was discontinued August 31, 1910. Mail was ordered sent to Redfield.

ROSE

A discontinued postoffice eight miles west of Conde, established July 5, 1882. So named because the wild roses grew so profusely on the prairies nearby. The postmistress was a young lady named Ethel L. B. Smith. widely known as the Prairie Rose. She was later married to Edward Johnson and lived on the quarter across the road to the east of the postoffice. The postoffice was discontinued on October 31, 1905. Mail was ordered sent to Conde.

RUSSIAN COLONY

A ghost communal settlement ten miles south of Frankfort. Formerly called Hutterische Society for Hutter, the German missionary from the settlement in the Russian Ukraine. "Ische" is the German suffix indicating member of; hence, Hutterische means a member of the religious teachings of Hutter. Started in 1909 by members of the McCook County Russian Settlement with the Reverend Wolters in charge. During the First World War the members, claiming to be conscientious objectors to war, abandoned the place and left for Saskatchewan, Canada. Today the colony is deserted, but remnants of the second generation remain as shown by the various families in that community named Tschetter, Hofer, Glanzer, Wurz, and Waldner.

SCATTERWOOD

A ghost town a few miles northwest of Northville. Named for Scatterwood Lake.

SPOTSWOOD

An elevator siding five miles south of Tulare. In the eighties, it was used for stock yards and a stock shipping point. It bears a name of undertermined origin.

STENNETTE

See Crandon.

STENNETTE JUNCTION

See Redfield.

SUMNER

A discontinued postoffice fifteen miles east of Ashton, established March 21, 1882, at the Joel Labrie residence, with Anatole F. Labrie as postmaster. The office was discontinued December 15, 1900, and mail was ordered sent to Doland. Named for Sumner Township, Illinois, the former home of Joel Labrie.

TETONKA

A discontinued post office in Tetonka Township, a mile east of the Tetonka bridge. Established November 8, 1880, with Clarence W. Mitchell as postmaster. The name Tetonka means "buffalo" in the Sioux language. The office was discontinued Sept. 30, 1891, and mail ordered sent to Rose postoffice.

TULARE

A town, population 225, in Tulare Township in the southwest part of the county. The postoffice was established January 7, 1884, with Ira Dorcas as postmaster. There is an interesting story about its name. It seems that there were two brothers who, when the train halted on an uphill grade near the present site of the town, entertained the passengers with an unending supply of tall tales. So persistent were the two brothers in their story telling that people referred to them as the Two Liars. Later the expression was contracted to the more dignified Tulare and adopted as the name of the town. Another explanation for the name is given by John Smart, one of the earliest settlers of the town, who says that the town was named for Lake Tulare in California because of the good water found at the townsite. Incorporated as a town March 21, 1916.

TURTON

A town, population 140, in Turton Township in the northeast part of the county. A postoffice one mile south and one-half mile east of the present site of Turton, known as St. Paul, and named for the Apostle Paul, was established July 2, 1884, with Joseph C. Fortin as postmaster. The name of the office was changed to Turton and the town platted December 24, 1887, by the Western Town Lot Company. Named for the town of Turton, France, by the French settlers of the community. Among the earliest residents was Ferdinand Labrie, who operated both a grocery store and a hotel, and E. Z. Cloutier, the proprietor of a general store. One of the most outstanding institutions of Turton is the Turton Convent, a parochial school offering a full course of eight grades, and The Little Flower Home, a home established at the convent for destitute and orphan children of the diocese. The town was incorporated May 3, 1905.

TWENTY MILE STATION

A gas station on the county line between Spink and Beadle counties. So called because it is twenty miles north of Huron. Operated by a Russian woman known as Brown Betty.

SETTLEMENT OF ASHTON

During the "Big Boom" some settlements were made in Spink County. Ashton, one of the first, was situated about one-half mile from the James River. This settlement was started in the summer of 1881, and the first dwelling in Ashton was a tent occupied by Mr. McPherson who managed a store. He obtained his supplies from Watertown. He afterwards sold his store to Mr. Schofield and Olson who built on the present site of E. W. Chase's store.

The first building in the town was a shack completed August 4, 1881. It was afterwards used as a storehouse and kitchen of the Allen House. It burned in 1910. After the building of the first shack, the settlement grew rapidly. In five months time, many buildings had been added. Among them were the depot with S. A. Fleming as station agent, and a blacksmith shop owned by Dwight Cilly. S. M. Howes and Company, the Kellog & Selleck were lumber firms, while Lee and Watkins and F. W. Rogers were in the real estate business.

Some of the buildings first appearing on Main Street were the Bowman House, owned by S. W. Bowman, D. C. Morris general store, Bassett and Kelley's hardware store, Anderson's bakery, and confectionery store, and Reed and Kelsey's drug store. Dr. Anderson's office was above the drug store. Fred Carpenter had a restaurant and a feed store.

The town had two papers, "The Ashton Bee" edited by George Shoals, and "The Spink County Herald", edited by H. G. Rising who was also postmaster. The many land advertisements helped support the two papers. The first paper, the Spink County Herald, was printed in a tent on September 21, 1881. An article in this first paper read "The boys who robbed Mr. Billings' watermelon patch were visited by Sheriff Kneisel Tuesday morning. They settled for two dollars apiece. These were dear melons."

The first train came from Aberdeen about the 20th of September, and every one was there, including the new brass band.

The first baby born in Ashton was Ashton Allen.

The first schoolhouse was built in 1882. It was what was later called the Perriton house. The first teacher was Miss Walters, and the second was Joseph Bottum. Earl Rhoades, Henry Perriton, Edith Issenauer, May Boyer, and Clare Bullen were members of the first graduating class in 1894.

One of the earliest programs was held in the opera house on March 29, 1889. One of the numbers on the program was: "The Little Gleaners", a reading by Edith Boyer. Other numbers were: "Here and There", a duet by Monnie and Myrtle Lee; "The Boys' Complaint", a reading by Earl Rhoades; "When Spring Comes", a reading by Harry Rhoades; "The Ball and Bat", by Clare Bullen.

The mill was built in 1884 by Mr. Versteeg, the capacity being fifty barrels daily, which later increased to three hundred barrels daily. The mill people had an eight inch artesian well drilled by Swan & Stacy in 1892, and this was the largest well in Dakota up to that time. It discharged several car loads of white sand before the water was clear. The well was used for developing 19 ¾ horse power by means of Pellon Motor. The mill was destroyed by fire on November 15, 1912.

The first telephone was in John Boyer's store at Ashton in 1895 or 1896. Ashton was struck by a cyclone in 1897. It blew over some buildings and took the north side of the courthouse. There were four big fires in 1887, one in 1890, which burned most of the north side of Main Street, and there were two fires in 1908 and 1910, which burned the south side of Main Street. Much of this was rebuilt with brick buildings.

Among the residences built between 1905 and 1908, were: A. Versteeg, F. C. Ramser, Mrs. Lower, D. H. Roberts, W. Thomas, and H. Lambert.

ASHTON

Ashton, a town in Jefferson Township, is in the west central part of the County. It was named for "Old Ashton". When the Milwaukee railroad built through this section in 1881, the town site was platted and until 1884 was called "New Ashton," to distinguish it from the older town. In 1885, the territorial legislature, which met at Bismarck, passed an act which located the county seat at Ashton. The act contained a provision that at the next general election the location of the county seat should be submitted to vote. Records remained in Ashton for two years. Redfield then won the election and became the county seat.

Senator Elias McCauley of Ashton had introduced a bill in the 15th Session of the Territorial Legislature, to incorporate the city. The judges named for the first election were: J. H. Allen, C. B. Bllinghurst and S. M. Howes, all of Ashton.

The first city officials elected on June 15, 1883, were Mayor J. H. Allen; Councilman, C. B. Billinghurst, W. W. Kelsey, T. E. Phillips, and J. J. Cushing. The Clerk was C. M. Williams, Assessor, S. W. Bowman, Treasurer, J. D. Goodard, and the Police Justice, Carroll Atwood.

F. W. Rogers was manager of the Bank of Ashton.

Early ministers included: Reverend Mr. Rogers, Barz, Shaw, Bloomhall.

D. W. Poindexter, Lawyer, Judge, and Senator in the Territorial Legislature at Bismarck, in 1889, had an office where the Legion Hall now stands. In 1886 he was Probate Judge.

S. W. Bowman, first settler, builder of the Hotel at Ashton, was a State Representative and one of the first County Commissioners.

F. L. Selleck was Probate Judge in 1883. A. D. Eckhart was an early day County Treasurer.

John S. Perriton, organizer of the Masonic Lodge in 1883 and the Order of Eastern Star in 1897, was active in the affairs of the city and the public school. The family later moved to Huron and opened a drug store there.

C. E. Wheeler and T. P. Blain, were also in the Legislature at Pierre, and E. N. Graves was Assistant Secretary of State. Mr. Graves was one of the earliest teachers east of Ashton. He served for many years in various offices in the city and school. He managed the Ashton State Bank until the "black blizzards". Mr. Lambert was his assistant.

George and Fred Shoals printed the Ashton Bee, the only daily paper in the county. Other papers were The Ashton Herald printed by H. G. Rising, and the Ashton Chronicle, by Roger Bird.

Mr. C. F. Graves was a very prominent person in Clifton Township and Ashton City. He held many offices of trust, and acted as County Commissioner for many years. He was well-liked by everyone.

Arthur Coleman and George Coleman, his brother, were in the furniture and undertaking business in Ashton. The large store which they built had upstairs offices, one of which was occupied by their brother-in-law, Attorney D. H. Roberts. Mr. Wilson, the dentist, also had his office there, and Mrs. Eva Hodge Hilliker, and Mitchell Hoyt Taylor lived there with her children. Mrs. Taylor operated a large hotel on the corner where the Phillips 66 now stands. When the first train arrived from Aberdeen, she prepared many basket lunches which were sold to the passengers. Labor Day was her busiest day at which time she served several hundred people. Having a wide reputation as a cook, she later worked at the Redfield College. Her son, Earl, became an outstanding ball player.

In the early days, there was a Fair Grounds east of the city, on the school section, where a good race track was located and a grandstand and ball diamond afforded entertainment for the early settlers.

Stevens Store was located across from McCrossens, on the corner south of the livery stable. Beginning on the south side of the street, at the east was the Milwaukee Depot, then the big hotel, called the Ackley House, built on the corner where the Phillips 66 Ashton Oil Company now stands; Kellsey Drug Store, Senechal store, a saloon, Bonsey Hotel, Ziegler Harness Shop, Sloan Mesmer's Jewelry Store on the corner. Across Elm Street was the Hammond Bank, on the corner, with the Odd Fellows Hall upstairs, Clark and Anderson Department Store, Perriton's Meat Market, with the Masonic Lodge Hall upstairs, Ferguson's store, Dick Lizer, the tailor, a photograph gallery, Roberts Furniture, a millinery store. Across the street east was a laundry, Ed Noyes store, Rogers' Land Office, Morse Department Store, and the Bowman House on the corner. Across the street was the Reed & Kelsey corner, later Lee and Watkins. (Kelsey burned out and went to the south side of Main Street.) Billinghurst bank, S. P. Watkins law office, Hamley harness shop, Andrews hardware, Schofield department store. Across the street was the elevator managed by a Mr. Johnson. At the far end of the street on the north side stood the Congregational Church. There was extensive building of homes also for four blocks south and three blocks north. Where the Opera House now stands, was built a Court House. New Ashton expected to become the county seat and she wanted a place for the offices.

The first train whistled into New Ashton in September, 1881. Everyone was out to meet it. An elaborate program was arranged with Madam Staffallic singing in the depot, probably the first real concert held in Ashton. Madam Staffallic was a person of great musical talent who taught many of the youth of the community at her studio in the S. P. Watkins home. She had ability as a violinist as well as being an accomplished pianist. Mary Lee Watkins was one of her pupils.

Ashton then had regular passenger trains. Mr. Fleming was the depot agent and later Mr. W. E. Cole, and others. As a coincidence, the last agent in Ashton was also a Fleming.

The main street of Ashton was lined with hitching posts with iron rails to which ponies and teams could be tied.

About a block south of the Ackley house was a huge watering trough for thirsty horses. In that same neighborhood was the Ashton Flour Mill and other elevators and a large railroad water tank. Stockyards were located along the track and coal sheds and unloading stations, also a slaughter house. A stable one block south of main street was operated by Frank Harrington and one on Elm Street north by Nels Sevall, later by George Wilhelm.

On this first Main Street was a blacksmith shop run by Jens Jenson, Sr., and a block south of Main Street was a blacksmith shop operated by Joe Shannon. There was a grocery store across the street on the south corner.

Mr. W. H. Francis barbered for more than fifty years in Ashton. He and his wife celebrated their Golden Wedding at Ashton and are still residents of the community.

Barney Ryan was an early butcher and meat peddler. Meat was hauled throughout the country and sold to the settlers. A big ice house in the north part of Ashton, furnished ice for the ice cream and ice boxes which the more well-to-do families could afford.

Most of the settlers had caves or cellars under their claim shacks to keep their milk, cream, and butter cool.

Many salted and smoked their meat and fish to preserve it. Every home made its own butter, and bread, and the women washed on a board which wasn't easy work since the families were large and clothes were few. Closet room didn't worry them. Even the frame houses built later lacked storage space. No one locked his door, for someone might come while he was away to leave something for him.

ASHTON CITY, DAKOTA TERRITORY

Grace E. Taylor Sanden.

A special meeting was held in Ashton May 22, 1883. The citizens voted to incorporate the city of Ashton. There were forty-one votes cast, twenty-two for incorporation, and nineteen against. Judges of said election were J. H. Allen, C. M. Howes, and C. B. Billinghurst. A. A. Selleck was Judge of the Probate Court.

The first officers were elected June 15, 1883, as follows: Mayor J. H. Allen; Clerk, C. M. Williams; Treasurer, J. D. Goodard; Police Justice, Carroll Atwood; Assessor, S. W. Bowman; Alderman, C. B. Billinghurst; J. J. Cushing, A. D. Cilley, F. E. Phillips, W. W. Kelsey.

First Council meetings were held at the Allen House. First Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor J. H. Allen on June 18, 1883, when rules were adopted. On June 21, the Council passed Ashton City Ordinances. On June 22, George L. Shoals, editor of the Ashton Bee, received the bid to publish Council Proceedings. July 2, the Marshall was authorized to employ three deputies for the 4th of July, and the place of meeting was changed to Williams and Phillips office. July 3, City Council allowed $203.00 for streets.

The first board sidewalks were ordered built by citizens on July 16, 1883, giving them until July 30th, to have them constructed at their own expense with a 25% penalty and costs charged if not completed. The cost was $14.20 per lot for a 4-ft. width of 2-inch plank supported by three stringers.

July 22, each dollar of assessed valuation of Ashton City property was taxed five mills for general purposes, two mills for waterworks.

On August 1, Ashton City bought five light posts of M. R. Hinckley, for $5.00.

On August 27, Reed and Kelsey sold the city street lamps for $30.92.

On August 16th the city voted for its first issuance of bonds in the amount of $2,000.00, for the purpose of furnishing the city with water from the railroad artesian well. These bonds were eight in number and $250.00 each, with interest at 8%.

Firm of Bassett and Kelley received the bid to put in the waterworks according to specifications and furnish everything for $1,800.00.

June 30, 1884, the Cemetery Committee reported that they had bought of William Holcomb five acres of land for cemetery purposes at $50.00 an acre. The committee ordered to have the land surveyed and laid out in suitable lots. W. H. Hedges made the plat.

October 13, 1884, $15,000.00 worth of bonds were issued by the election of Syndicate Hall. The vote was 56 to 0. Bonds to be used for construction of public building and purchase and improvement of grounds on which to erect the same.

May 19, 1885, a Special Election was held for issuing bonds in the amount of $7,000.00 due in fifteen years at 8% in denominations of $500.00 payable to the Chemical National Bank of New York City for the purpose of building City Hall and Engine House and grounds.

The prominent places for posting notices were: the Postoffice, C. B. Stevens Store, M. T. Scofield Store.

The city required more helpers so on May 4, 1885 at the regular City Council Mayor F. W. Rogers appointed these committees:

John J. Cushing, M. L. Reed, Judiciary.
C. B. Billinghurst, John J. Cushing, Finance.
C. B. Stevens, M. H. Kelley, Streets and Alleys.
M. L. Reed, C. B. Stevens, Fire and Water.
M. H. Kelley, C. B. Billinghurst, License.

The Council voted that a grade be established on Main and 1st Avenue. M. L. Reed reported his investigation on fire extinguishers. He recommended two No. 5 Champion Chemical Engines and ladders.

On May 11, 1885, T. W. Price was paid $24.50 as night watchman. E. B. Anderson's bill was $85.00 as City Marshal.

May 25, 1885, after much dickering, Council members finally voted to pay their City Clerk $5.00 a month.

May 18, a two-year lease was ordered to be signed by the Mayor on behalf of the City of Ashton, with the Ashton Building Company for ground on Lot 12, Block 11, on which ground the city vault is located.

June 29, 1885, Ashton Cornet Band paid $100.00 for past services.

The Council ordered all stock found picketed out at night to be taken to the barn by Marshal and all unlicensed dogs killed, on July 1, 1885.

July 6, 1885, Mayor F. W. Rogers appointed to join with Farmers Elevator Committee and go to Minneapolis to interview the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad officials regarding the securing of elevator grounds north of Ashton Roller Mill.

At a special meeting July 29, 1885, a motion prevailed that Mayor Rogers appoint a committee of five to make arrangements to hold Memorial Services on August, 1885, for U. S. Grant. The committee appointed was: S. F. Hammond, John S. Perriton, W. C. Smart, Reverend G. W. Shaw, and John L. Boyer.

At this meeting, they also made arrangements to fence the Cemetery. The Aldermen at this time were: Kelley, Cushing, Reed. Billinghurst and Stevens.

On August 3, 1885, Alderman Reed introduced an ordinance to provide the laying of watermains on Main Street, and in the city of Ashton. This resolution was adopted. "Be it resolved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Ashton, Dakota Territory: That in the death of General U. S. Grant, we recognize the loss to our country of a great statesman, soldier and public servant. That in memory of his great and valuable service to our common country we order that all city offices be closed on the 8th day of August, 1885, between the hours of one and five o'clock P.M. and recommend that all business in the city of Ashton be suspended between those hours and that all business houses be closed, and that the citizens of Ashton do turn out enmasse and attend the memorial services to be held in Ashton on that day; that this resolution be published in the city newspaper and spread upon the records and that a copy of this resolution be mailed to the family of the deceased."

On August 10, 1885, Council increased the City Treasurer's bond to $10,000.00. New streets and alleys and avenues be opened up. Plans and sites for City Hall and Court House referred to committee of Mayor F. W. Rogers, and Alderman J. J. Cushing. Same to be accepted by City Council. And also given authority to go to Minneapolis and St. Paul for this purpose and order necessary pipes and fixtures for laying water main hydrants as allowed.

August 17, 1885, motion carried that City buildings to be located on Lots 7-8-9, Block 8, same lots to be purchased from C. H. Prior. Alderman Kelley was to draw up advertisements for sealed bids for building the Court House and the same to be published in the Herald and Bee.

August 27, 1885, plans and specifications for Ashton Spink County Court House made by Long and Kees, architects of Minneapolis, Minnesota, were presented for approval.

Those voting for the affirmative were Billinghurst, Cushing, Kelley, Reed and Stevens. There were no nays.

September 21, 1885, the Financial Committee was authorized and empowered to enter into contract with John Stellwagen of Winona, Minnesota, to erect a court house according to the design of Mabury and Son to include one vault with two doors and a jail 16 x 16 when completed not to exceed $7,000.00. The order for the lots 7-8-9, Block 8, Sec. 35, Twp. 118, Range 64, drawn in favor of M. F. Scofield, Agent for C. H. Prior for $255.00. Taxes on lots were $4.35.

November 2, 1885, Committee reported that L. Moore had completed 1,000 ft. of water works and asked for $100.00 to help pay his help. The clerk was ordered to see that all theatrical troupes procure a license before each entertainment.

Mayor F. W. Rogers appointed a fire warden to inspect chimneys and was authorized to enter all buildings in Ashton and report to City Council. S. W. Bowman appointed as Fire Warden on November 9, 1885.

December 28, 1885, the contract of John Stellwagen for erecting the Court House was completed accordingly except a platform for the Judge and painting, and this was the first council meeting in the new Court House.

On March 13, 1886, the City Clerk made the following report:

Cash received in Treasury for	General Fund	$ 471.39	
	Highway Fund	426.08	
	Building Fund	7,583.69	
	Contingent Fund	1,000.00	
	Cemetery Fund	77.50	
	Interest	285.00	
Redeemed Warrant from County		293.21	
		$10,136.87	
Outstanding warrants on	General Fund	$1,021.27	
	Highway Fund	4.78	
	Contingent	227.51	
		$1,253.56	$1,253.56
	Cash on Hand		$1,130.86
Total Indebtedness of the City			$116.70

On Tuesday, April 6, 1886, the first General Election was held in the new Court House Hall. There were 136 votes cast and the following declared elected:

Mayor, C. B. Billinghurst; Clerk, Nevil Smith; Treasurer, John J. Hamley; Assessor, F. C. Smith; Aldermen, R. H. Acley, J. S. Perriton, M. H. Kelley, A. F. Senechal, and Ed. L. Noyes.

May 21, 1886, City Council ordered a $4,000.00 Tornado Insurance Policy on the new Court House.

On May 10, 1887, Place of election to be in the Rose Building lately occupied as an oyster parlor.

April 5, 1887, the following were elected: Mayor, S. F. Hammond; Clerk, Frank Selleck; Treasurer, Hawley; Justice, S. W. Bowman; Assessor, George H. Small; Aldermen, Nevil Smith, E. P. Mesmer, B. R. Hawley, Frank Reeve, Jas. A. Ferguson.

April 12, 1887, R. T. Lang took Jas. Ferguson's place on the Board.

May 5, 1887, Dr. M. L. Reed was appointed Ashton's Health Officer.

August 4, 1887, Motion carried that the City of Ashton rent the CM & STP well for $200.00 per year.

September 14, 1887, R. T. Lang resigned and John J. Cushing appointed in his place.

October 6, 1887, Alderman Smith resigned and on November 3, F. W. Kammann voted in.

John Gayette and Ed. Hoellein served as Police during the "Fair."

November 17, 1887, W. B. West and twenty-three petitioned the

City to build a street to be opened along the west side of the C M & St. P Railroad through the city from south and city limits to original town site.

The "Spink County Leader" was named the official paper.

At the General Election on April 3, 1888, the following were elected: Charles B. Stevens, Mayor, 65 votes; F. L. Selleck, City Clerk, 70 votes; John J. Hamley, City Treasurer, 72 votes; S. W. Bowman, Police Justice, 69 votes; T. W. P. Lee, Assessor, 70 votes; F. W. Kammann, Alderman, 68 votes; A. S. Hall, Alderman, 68 votes; I. A. Ferguson, Alderman, 68 votes; Geo. Boyer, Alderman, 68 votes; W. S. Billinghurst, 68 votes.

August 18, 1888, a special election called to decide for or against the organization of the city of Ashton into an independent school district. Result: Yes, 47; No. 1. The directors elected were: J. L. Boyer, C. W. Andrews, S. F. Hammond, J. G. Bullen, C. L. Downey, and F. W. Kammann. On November 16, 1888, S. P. Watkins appointed in place of S. F. Hammond.

In January, 1889, the City had many cases of scarlet fever and Alderman Boyer, Hall, Watkins and Mayor Stevens appointed to investigate and take measures as they deemed prudent to prevent further spread of the disease.

April 5, 1889, the Council canvassed the votes at the April 2 election. They found the following elected: John S. Perriton, Mayor; E. P. Mesmer, City Clerk; J. J. Hamley, Treasurer; T. W. P. Lee, Assessor; Aldermen: B. R. Hawley, A. F. Senechal, M. T. Price, Ed. L. Noyes, and George H. Small. Board of Education: C. W. Andrews, B. R. Downey, J. G. Bullen, S. F. Hammond, E. J. Clement.

April 10, 1889, More sidewalks ordered and the bond of the city treasurer fixed at $3,000.00.

May 3, 1889, the City spent $90.00 for chairs, chandeliers, stage and other property worth $450.00 from the Ashton Amusement Co.

On June 21, 1889, all ball playing on Main Street forbidden.

August 2, 1889, Motion prevailed that the cemetery be fenced. Alderman Small was to oversee the building of the fence.

November 2, 1889, South Dakota became a state and the Territory was no more. The Council then served Ashton, South Dakota, after that date, although E. T. Mesmer dated Ashton, S. D. August 14, 1889, and the Special Session was dated Ashton, S. D. August 31, 1889, and Regular Session headed Ashton, S. D. September 6, 1889.

Ashton explored the possibility of having a Normal School after the County Courthouse wasn't needed, but a committee from Watertown changed their minds and located elsewhere.

Ashton had four Main Street fires which wiped out great sections of the business district each time. These reverses have worked adversely for the thriving little town which was once the county seat of Spink County.

CRANDON

Crandon was first called Minden, and then changed to Crandon in honor of a railroad official.

Christie and Dixon established a grocery store there in 1881. By 1882 Crandon boasted stores of every kind such as drug, hardware, feed, dry goods, jewelry, millinery, grocery. It had a good hotel, the Prairie View House, a newspaper, "The Crandon Tribune", and grain elevators which were flat houses, lumber and coal yards, a baseball team and a band.

It was the largest town in the county at this time. A mill was also built which was completed in 1883 or 1884. It was a three-story building with an annex of about 20 x 20. The main building was about 60 x 60. It was razed in 1893 and the lumber used to build a hotel in Vermillion. Wheat straw had been used to fire the mill boiler.

But Crandon did not flourish for long because of the Milwaukee railroad coming through to the west and Northwestern coming from the east to Redfield. People left, moving their buildings to Tulare and Redfield. Some were demolished and rebuilt at other places. Some homes were moved to the country. Low prices and drought also caused people to leave.

By 1893 there was not much left of Crandon.

The town was partially rebuilt from 1908 to 1925. At that time, three grocery stores, two garages, a barber shop, a bank, three elevators, a lumber yard, and hardware store, two pool halls, a hotel and restaurant, blacksmith shop, harness shop, cream station, and two churches composed the town in addition to the residential section.

Crandon is now a ghost town with a church and school still standing, but not in use.

DOLAND

Doland's first newspaper was printed December 19, 1882. It was known as the Doland Record. Its editor was E. I. Martin. The first edition appeared in 1882. An article in this first issue, reprinted from the Redfield Journal, said in part: "F. H. Doland of Chicago, for whom the town is named, has 320 acres farm land adjoining the townsite on the south. Forty acres have been laid out into lots in which he holds a half interest. Mr. Doland has built a house 24 x 36, two stories high, containing 14 rooms — the largest private residence in Spink County. He has also built a two-story barn 22 x 24, the upper rooms having been finished in first-class style. The total cash outlay on these buildings is $4,000.00. Doland is a member of the wholesale boot and shoe firm of C. M. Henderson & Co. of Chicago, and has the means and disposition to aid the town very materially. He offers the use of his elegant new house free of cost until June 1st, and will donate four of the best lots, to any resonable person who will build a first class hotel here." Shortly after that, a second publication known as the Doland Times was established. Both were sponsored and patronized by competitive land companies.

Early editors of the Record were E. I. Martin, and J. C. Taylor, and the Times was run by Frank Haskins.

In 1887, a young man, Len V. Doty, of Darlington, Wisconsin, came to Doland at the invitation of several of the town's leading business men, and bought the two struggling businesses. He merged them and published the first Doland Times-Record in 1887. The newspaper was managed by the Doty family for seventy-three years. For many years, Len Doty printed his paper on an old Washington hand press. In 1919 his son Willard helped his father, and assumed the management of the firm when his father died in 1927. In the fall of 1960 they sold the paper to the owner of the Brookings Register.

The first issue of the Record, in 1882 contained these items: "Mr. H. G. Brown has purchased two lots north of the depot and has lumber on the gorund for building 20 x 24 two-stories, and will add a wing 22 x 24 one-story, to be used for a hotel. Rev. Clark, pastor of the M. E. Church, has taken a claim near town. He has taken advantage of Mr. Doland's offer of $500.00 for a church. The stone will soon be drawn and before the flowers spring forth again we shall have a good church edifice."

According to the Doland Record of June 12, 1883, "the first election ever held in Doland took place the preceding Tuesday, for school officers. Fifty-nine ballots were cast (90 days residence in the territory was required for voting). H. C. Carter was elected director and D. P. Bannister, Clerk."

"A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson McFadden, May 2, 1883, she being the first child born in Doland. The proprietors of the town are expected to furnish a name and donate a town lot." (Died October 26, 1883.)

July 9, 1883. "Less than a year ago this whole section was an unoccupied country. Now it is not only occupied, but quarter sections are valued at from $700.00 to $1400.00. Ninety days ago there were but three buildings in Doland. Now there are about forty. There are: one hardware, 1 drug, 2 flour and feed, 2 agricultural, 3 grocery, 1 dry-goods, and millinery, 1 tobacco and cigar store, 1 barber shop, 2 lumber yards, 1 lime and coal store, 3 hotels, 2 blacksmith shops, 1 first class livery stable, and 1 harness shop."

October 18, 1883. "General Sherman will, on November 1, return to civil life and turn the command of the army over to General Sheridan. All ex-soldiers in eastern Spink are requested to meet at Power's Hall, Doland, on Saturday afternoon for the purpose of taking the necessary steps to organize a post of the G.A.R.

From the issue of November 15, 1883: "Mr. Fargo will complete his contract for the building of the six school houses in this district within the specified time, although it was hardly supposed possible. He has been favored by good weather, however, and has pushed the work energetically.

"The building in this village is already completed, and although not large, is an attractive and convenient structure. The plan is made with the expectation of making future additions, as the growth of the town shall demand. The building will be one-story, however, large, that being the latest idea in school architecture. Although not so imposing as many towns, ambitious of lofty school structures, would desire, it is really much better, avoiding the climbing of stairs, which is the cause of much noise, frequent detriment to health, and of unquestionable danger in case of fire."

November 22, 1883. "Religious services were held in the schoolhouse for the first time, on Sunday, and were well attended. Reverend D. J. Holmes officiated."

The sociable and dance, on Thursday evening, were not so well attended as if the weather had been pleasanter, but were much enjoyed by those present, and netted $25.00 for the schoolhouse bell."

Hubert Humphrey, well-known graduate of Doland High School, was particularly active in debate and dramatics, and was valedictorian of his class in 1929. He went on in political circles to become Mayor of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Senator to the United States Congress from Minnesota, and early candidate for President of the United States in the recent election. Star debators with Humphrey at Doland were Julian Hartt, Earl Hansen and Lewis Terpstra. Miss Lois Crouch coached the group who won district championship four times within five years.

The Citizens' Committee of Doland invited surrounding counties, including Kingsbury, Brown, Clark, Day, Faulk, in addition to Spink, to a mass convention on January 25, 1892 for the purpose of exploring a formula for producing rain. S. E. Morris, president of the Citizens' Committee, introduced the representative of the Interstate Artificial Rain Company, of Goodland, Kansas, to an overflow crowd on a bright and sunny day. A committee of five from each county was appointed to make further investigation and draw up a contract with the Company on a no-rain no-pay basis, for $2,500.00. The trial was to be in April, and each county raised $100.00 to help defray the expenses.

In March the rains came — six inches in one day, and continued until the question was not one of how to make it rain, but how to stop it. Preceded by three weeks of rainy weather, the day for the rain trial came and went. On July 1st, 1892 the representative from the rain company arrived in Doland. Clouds and unsettled weather welcomed him and once more man bowed to Providence.

The following summer, June 23, 1893, the farmers were again plagued by drought and the rainmaker was summoned. He was given five days to bring about the miracle of one-half inch of rain within a radius of three hundred miles. If he failed, he must stand his own expense, but should he succeed the committee was ready to pay $500.00. On the evening of the last day, a shower occurred in Doland with greater precipitation in the southern part of the county, and in Clark and portions of Kingsbury counties. Though recipients were divided in their opinions as to what caused the rain, the rainmaker was paid. Other showers fell in July and the crop was fairly good, the threshing rigs were busy through January, getting the grain out of the heading stacks.

(From the Times-Record, October 2, 1952.)

Doland, which was settled in 1882, has for years been a large wool-shipping center, and situated in a productive farming region.

FRANKFORT

By: Mrs. W. P. Jones

In 1881, Frankfort was just a mark on the map of Dakota. Only one building a house on the east side of town on the present Highway 212, on property owned by Oscar Blain, stood on the present site of Frankfort. Although a residence, the east wing was used for the first school in the winter of 1882. In 1884 a school was built on the north side of the present Highway 212. The first community Church services were held there with O. S. Basford, the first minister.

The name of Frankfort originated from the name of Frank Fisher, a pioneer real estate man, who came to the area with Colonel Foster. The name was sent to Washington as "Frankford", but a mistake was made and the papers were returned with the name "Frankfort".

The town grew rapidly and by 1883 the following places of business were established: E. W. Foster, Farm Machinery; Hanford & Son, General Merchandise; L. J. Ambruster, Drugstore; Wayne & Dennett, Hardware; James River Bank, S. E. Morris, President; W. F. Aldred, Vice President; W. D. Craig, Cashier and Edith Craig (now Mrs. Oscar Blain), Bookkeeper; Beecher and Wallbridge, Lawyers; Lewis M. Gates Hotel; Labrie and Labrie, Lawyers; W. Jacoby, Physician; Blain and LaFond, General Merchandise; H. C. Mulford, General Merchandise; N. C. Baker Dry-goods & Groceries; John B. Blain, General Merchandise; A. E. Smith, Hardware; Benjamin Goodwin, Harness; S. G. Tyler, Furniture; M. J. Starr, Books and Stationary; Confectionery; Fisher, Thomas and Starr, Attorneys; Graves and Reed, Meat Market; B. M. Childs, Meat Market; I. C. Adams, Jeweler; H. M. Jennings, Building Contractor; Ira B. Ford, Hotel; H. Henrme, Boot & Shoe Maker; A. J. Busby, Carpenter, Badgers & Young, Contractors; F. G. Bevier, Blacksmith and Wagon Maker; H. G. Gillam, Contractor; George Goodman, Livery and Feed; Alex Fisher, Livery and Feed; Soule and Hough, Agricultural Implements; Kirkham and Pierce, Agricultural Implements; Harris and Laird, Lumber; VanDusen and Company, Lumber; Porter Miller & Co. In 1885 Packard and Murphy built the Frankfort Flour Mill and this mill was in operation until it burned February 27, 1919. (These statistics were taken from the first issue of the Frankfort Advocate.)

In 1882 the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad completed its extension to Frankfort.

In 1883 a fine crop of wheat was harvested on the town site which yielded thirty bushels to the acre. This verified the hopes of the settlers that the wheat fields of the James River were the finest and most productive in the world. Up to January, 1883, the railroad transported nearly 53,000 bushels of wheat and 9,000 bushels of flax.

Frankfort has five elevators with a capacity of 200,000 bushels and the average yearly shipments are 400 cars. South Dakota Wheat Growers have recently added a grain dryer to their equipment. During the threshing season it operates day and night as grain comes from a radius of fifty miles.

For entertainment, the town was very active in outdoor sports, such as horse racing, boxing, wrestling, etc. The race track was east of town. At that time, the two and three day celebrations drew immense crowds.

The three churches built in Frankfort were the Congregational, the Methodist and the Catholic. The first Catholic church had just been finished when the wind demolished the building. Another church was soon started. The money for the interior decorations was furnished by the young women of the parish who presented a home talent play in Frankfort and several surrounding towns. Mrs. Barbara Robinson and her two sisters helped produce the play. Bad luck followed, for the church was struck by lightning and burned. Later, the present brick building was erected.

In 1887 Frankfort was growing rapidly and felt the need of a greater water supply as shallow wells were not dependable. The Town Board decided to put down an artesian well and contracted Swan Well Company to drill a six-inch well. It took about three months before water was reached and then they hit a gusher! Water shot into the air and the scaffolding around the pipe was torn down. Ditches were dug quickly to help carry away some of the water, but the well was never put under control. The force of the water was so great that the pipe four hundred feet below the surface was broken and so undermined the earth that it made a cave in a half block in area at the depth of the break in the pipe. After futile efforts were made to stop the flow of the water, two carloads of cement were dumped around the pipe. The water was so deep that the cement had to be carried by boat. This checked, but did not stop, the flow of the water. The Frankfort Hotel was so undermined by the water it had to be moved at the expense of the town, to a safer location. After the water finally receded, the great hole was used as a dump ground. It has been used fifty years for that purpose, and, in all probability, can be used for the same purpose for another fifty years.

Frankfort had exciting times in the early days. Among the unusual events to take place were three unsolved murders and a bank robbery. The latter took place on the night of September 6, 1907, when some of the people who lived near the bank were awakened by loud explosions. Two men began to investigate but were driven back by shots from four robbers. One man was shot in the leg, but not wounded seriously. The robbers escaped, taking a large amount of money. Torrents of rain covered their tracks, and they were never caught. The next morning part of the vault door was found across the street where it had been blown by the explosion. This bank building, now occupied by the Red Owl Store, is one of the oldest in the town.

In 1897 the big snows isolated Frankfort for several weeks. The mail was carried by team twice a week from Watertown to Redfield. Finally the rotary plow went through Frankfort, followed by two double-header freight trains, bringing the much needed coal and provisions. In the following spring, all the bridges went out and the only way to reach the town was on foot over the railroad bridge between Frankfort and Redfield.

Clarence Lang, whose birthplace was five miles east of Frankfort, was one of the first white children born in Spink County. He was born in 1880. Clarence grew to manhood in Frankfort. In the early years he had a general store, and later operated a garage; then, until he retired, he operated and owned a service station on Highway 212.

For many years, Oscar Blain was the oldest settler in Frankfort. He came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. Blain in 1882, and lived in the Frankfort vicinity with the exception of the years he and his brother operated a garage in Redfield.

During the depression of the '90's Frankfort declined in population and in prosperity. During the '30's grasshoppers, hot winds, and dust storms hurt Frankfort as it did other towns. The town could not have survived had it not been for the Government Aid received.

In recent years, when moisture has been increased, a change has again come to Frankfort; business places and homes have been painted and repaired; and roads have been hard surfaced and graveled.

MELLETTE

C. L. Child built across Main Street from the Dale building, in December, 1881, and started a general merchandise business.

A. J. Hess started the newspaper called "The Western Enterprise" which he printed in the depot, in November, 1881. It was published for a year when the name was changed to the "Mellette Tribune."

In the spring of 1882, James Harris built the first residence in Mellette. P. B. Cole erected the first hotel in the fall of 1881. The Milwaukee Railroad built the depot November 1, 1881.

Child and Hathway erected a hotel in February, 1882. In April of the same year, L. J. Vollmer opened a shoe shop and in May, Dell Lapham built the first restaurant, and construction on a schoolhouse was started. Hatchard & Bacon opened a feed store, and the Ondell Brothers, a grocery store. Pratt and Porter built the first elevator in the city in 1882. Putnam Elevator Company and Commons and Bassett built elevators in 1883, and a Farmers' Elevator was built in 1885. The Chicago & Milwaukee Railroad built an elevator in 1888.

In 1889 an artesian well was drilled. Ten years later, this well was replaced with a new one, and in 1911 another well was dug.

REDFIELD

The first habitation in Redfield was the dug-out of F. S. Myers on the west bank of Turtle Creek, at the east end of what was formerly known as Irving Street, near the D. N. Hunt residence. Mr. Myers filed his preemption claim there in 1879.

In the spring of 1880, other habitations appeared. A sod house was located near where Joe Augustine's carpenter shop was later located, and the Jarvis Hotel where the Packard Hotel is located at the present time. The Welker House was built at the east end of Franklin Avenue.

A block to the east of the Welker House was a frame shanty built by C. H. Myers, and occupied by him, J. S. Huston, Gustave Bruell, W. D. Myers, A. T. Dykeman, and others.

From the Redfield Journal, March 23, 1882, Vol. 1. No. 1.

"A board of trade has just been organized as follows: E. W. Foster, President; C. H. Myers, Vice President; P. H. Monroe, Treasurer; F. A. Dawes, Secretary; and the directors were H. P. Packard, George F. Johnson, and L. A. Pratt, and J. J. Hunt".

The advertisements showed the following business represented:
J. A. Wilson, General Merchandise; Peter Scherffuis, Farm Implements; Laird, Norton & Co., Lumber, F. S. Myers, Agent; Youman Bros. & Hodg-

ins, Lumber, L. A. Pratt, Agent; H. P. Packard, General Merchandise; H. T. B. Bagge, General Merchandise; M. Cooke & Co., Groceries, Flour & Feed; Clark & Arvold, Drugs; J. M. Dunning, Bakery & Restaurant; Johnson & Watkins, Hardware; E. W. Foster & Co., Farm Machinery; Soule & Haugh, Farm Machinery; J. W. Clark, Hardware; Rolander & Jolitz, Blacksmiths; C. E. Griffith, Meat Market; H. G. Rising, Dakota Sun; Soule & Haugh, Livery; G. R. Welch, Furniture; Hopkins & Wilson, Central House; Beebe & Oulmit, Blacksmiths; Bowman & Savin, Commission House; S. S. Bateman, Physician; A. A. Arvold, Contractor & Builder; R. McConnell, Contractor & Builder; A. J. Maury, Land Locator; P. H. Monroe, Land Locator; S. W. Bowman, Land Locator; F. A. Dawes, Banker; H. G. Warnecke, Attorney; Kelly & Hunt, Attorneys; F. I. Fisher, Attorney; C. H. Myers, Attorney; Hadley & Miles, Attorneys; Miles & Hadley, publishers of Redfield Journal.

The original plat of Redfield was made July 5, 1880 and filed for record August 11, 1880, by Albert Keep, who later sold to the Western Town Lot Company.

The first deed for lots in the city was dated November 10, 1881, and was given to R. C. (Charley) King. The second deed was to M. J. Jarvis, November 29, 1881. The first residence lot was deeded to Lyman A. Pratt, Dec. 2, 1881. All of these were quit claim deeds.

During the winter of 1880-81 Mr. Jarvis, K. L. Hassell, Al Dikeman, and Mr. Welker were the only ones living on the site of the present city. During the winter they killed an antelope within the city limits.

During 1882 sixty-nine deeds were issued for lots in Redfield, and in March, 1882 there were about ten buildings of various kinds in the town.

General Conklin was the orator at the Fourth of July celebration in Redfield, in 1881. The news of the assassination of President Garfield was received while he was speaking.

In the spring of 1882 the Johnson and Watkins Hardware Store had purchased a carload of nails and the kegs were piled to the ceiling and the full length of the store. Shortly thereafter there were no nails left in the store. Part of the house where Judge Coolidge later lived was shingled with six-penny nails because there was not a shingle nail in town and none could be obtained for several weeks.

Carpenters were much in demand, and it was said "Any man who could cut two boards within two inches of the same length was a carpenter."

The first place to be used as a city hall was over Andersen's furniture store, a two-story frame building which later burned.

Reverend O. S. Basford, and Miss Sadie Ward were the first teachers. The building had four rooms only two of which were equipped for teaching purposes. Tuition was charged. The upper rooms were used for public meetings and dances.

On the Fourth of July, 1882, Col. Foster was the orator, his subject being "Bread and Butter". J. B. Kelley read the Declaration of Independence. The fireworks display was in charge of Mr. Packard and was set off from the top of the school building. The first rocket ignited the entire supply which shot in every direction and reacting instinctively, he sought security behind the four-by-four corner posts of the belfry. It was amusing to see him try to protect a forty inch body with a four inch post. He was helped to the ground quickly by those nearby.

Mr. Warnock was the first lawyer in Redfield, having started a law office in 1881. Dr. Bateman was the first physician, having come in 1882. Mr. C. H. Myers laid out the cemetery in 1882. The first burials were made in the spring of that year.

From the beginning Redfield had many good musicians, both vocal and instrumental, and a love of good entertainment still continues in the city.

From article "Early Resident Tells of Early Settlement and Development of City," in August 21, 1930 issue of the Redfield Journal-Observer.

The C. H. Myers house is said to be the first house on the site of Redfield, at which time the site was not yet surveyed. Mrs. J. E. Welker was the first white woman to come to Redfield to make her home permanently. "When I first saw Redfield, all there was here was buffalo horns and cactus," said her daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Bennett.

During the winter of 1881, there were but eight families in Redfield. They were the Bruell family, George Bent family, K. L. Hassell family, Al Dykeman, Ed Lawrence family, Matt Jarvis and the J. E. Welker family. During that severe winter antelope were practically the only source of meat. Supplies ran low and it became necessary to grind wheat in coffee mills to keep alive. Finally all the mills with the exception of Welker's gave out, and it was in continuous service. It was placed on a long bench and someone was using it to grind wheat all of the time. There wasn't a growing tree in the town at that time. There were brown birds in abundance which used to sit as thick as they could on the backs of the cows.

The first church service in Redfield was held in the Welker House in the fall of 1880. Later church services were held in the passenger coach near the Northwestern depot.

No mail was delivered to Redfield during that first winter. K. L. Hassell had the postoffice in his home during the first summer of 1880. The mail came by stage from Watertown and later from Huron. The water for washing clothes was hauled from Turtle Creek.

The first printing shop in Redfield was set up in the back of the H. P. Packard store which was the first store in the town. A heavy wind storm that summer blew down the store, but Mr. Packard gathered up the merchandise and continued in business.

From: "Mrs. Bennett Tells of Winter '80-'81, in Redfield Journal Observer, August 21, 1930."

H. C. Rising, Editor and Publisher of Redfield's first newspaper, "The Sun", printed the paper using an old army press mounted on top of a molasses barrel.

On April 7, 1883, in special election the vote for the incorporation of the city of Redfield was passed unanimously. On April 18 of that year in the first city election, D. N. Hunt was elected Mayor, G. T. Johnson, Recorer, and J. S. Huston, Treasurer.

The first ordinance passed regulated the licensing and controlling of traveling shows, circuses and theatricals.

The A. B. Anderson hall was secured as council chamber at $3.00 per month rent.

Horse racing and immoderate driving on the city streets was prohibited by an ordinance.

In October, 1883 four cisterns were dug for use in fire protection. A hand fire engine, hose car, 1,000 ft. hose and ladder truck completed the equipment.

In 1890, the noted Redfield well was drilled to a depth of 964 feet, with a flow of 1261 gallons of water per minute at a pressure of 177 lbs. per square inch. It took six men just to hold the hose and they couldn't play it.

John Hough sold the first twine binder made.

Mr. M. J. Jarvis had come from Baraboo, Wisconsin and had built the first shanty, a 10x12 structure on a lot just north of what is now the Foster Hotel. This preceded the surveyors of the Western Town Lot Co. who arrived in 1880.

From: "City named for J. B. Redfield, by Fred Legler, in August 21, 1930 issue of the Redfield Journal-Observer."

George C. Christian, owner of the Redfield Mill which produced the "Royal Patent", "Cyclone", and "Whitehouse" flour, was instrumental in the development of the great northwest as a wheat growing territory. In 1879 investigations in Hungary where rolls were used in the making of flour from hard wheats caused him finally to succeed in interesting an eastern foundry in the manufacture of chilled iron rollers for milling purposes. They were shipped to Minneapolis where they were installed in the mill which Mr. Christian operated there at that time. The new process was satisfactory, and succeeded in producing the white flour which was much in demand. The business was correspondingly profitable and many of the mills throughout the country adopted the new process. Now the hard spring wheat, instead of being sold at a discount under winter wheat, demanded a premium. The demand for the fine hard wheat for which South Dakota is famous immediately became greater than the supply, and the development of the western prairies from cattle ranges into wheat raising farms rapidly took place. Head miller at the Minneapolis plant, George T. Smith, was instrumental in perfecting another milling machine known as the middling purifier; his brother, Chas. T. Smith, who became head miller at the Redfield Mill, assisted him in his experimental work, and also in experimenting with, perfecting, and operating other milling machinery.

From: "Miller Made the New Northwest Possible by Redfield Press Special Spink County Edition, Redfield, South Dakota, August 22, 1918."

Conde takes its name from the old French family of the Countyde-Conde, and was established in 1885 upon the old W. W. Rounds homestead which was later purchased by the Northwestern Townsite Company. Among the early settlers of the town were: A. P. McMillan, general merchandise; W. W. Rounds, hardware dealer; Henry Bentz, first grain buyer; Ed Borwell, Chas. Shinn; E. C. Bouck, first blacksmith; D. German; E. B. Holladay, first postmaster; J. D. Herman, first physician; the first hotel was built in 1887 by John Bell and run by Joe Sparling. The Reverend George F. Bieber, was Conde's earliest minister.

From Redfield Press, August 22, 1918.

TULARE

Tulare was platted in the fall of 1883 when the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad was built there. It was built on land formerly owned by Ira Dorcas, and sold to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad.

The first building of the town was a store erected by Ira Dorcas on the corner where the McCoy Store now stands. The building of the old store, now owned by Mrs. Lawson, has been moved and is used as a dwelling place.

The first schoolhouse was on the land next to that now owned by Mrs. Pasche. John Martin owned the first lumberyard in the town. Dr. Hinkley, the first doctor, owned a dry goods store.

The first country school near Tulare was on Section 29, and one of the Smith boys, I believe, was the teacher. The Ball, Boyd, and Stevens children were the first children to attend this school. A debating society was held there in 1882 and 1883.

The first wedding to take place in Tulare was that of John Roos and Lizzie Wiseman in the winter of 1882. Among the first babies born in Tulare were Ethel Stevens, Edith Ball and Silas Boyd.

Other business or professional men were: Messrs. Olds, Mahaffey, Worthington, Holcomb, Moosedorph, Petersmeyer, Bell, John Harrison, and his father, Reverend Harrison. Later arrivals were: Ken Lincoln, Sewall, Boyd, John and Fred Hagman, Carl Wieting, Craig, Peter Nielson and Charles Hughes, the Deputy Sheriff.

Many of the old-timers left Spink County in the early Nineties. Charles Stephens sold his place to Jim Avery. Alfred Boyd went to Arizona. One of his sons, John, now over 90 years of age, lives in California. Fifty years bring many changes. Of all the adults who came to Tulare in 1882, only one, W. R. Smart, remains in the town now.

TURTON

Mr. Joben was Turton's first depot agent. Frank Kohlman established the first general store. The first residence was built and occupied by Ferdinand Labrie. In this building, the first Turton baby, Bertha Labrie, was born March 3, 1888. Noel Ponton was the first blacksmith, having established his shop in 1890. G. P. Jones, the first doctor, was a chiropractor. He established the first drugstore with Mr. Bentley as pharmacist. The first elevator in Turton was round and was run by horse power. Ferdinand Labrie was the first man to buy grain and sell lumber in Turton. The first bank, The State Bank of Turton, was established about 1901, by McShane and Kline. C. W. Derr owned the first furniture store. Arthur Labrie was the first cattle and hog buyer in Turton. J. M. Howard was the first man to buy and ship horses to the New York markets. In 1880, Ed Quinn started the first saloon in Turton.

The Turton Trumpet, the town's first newspaper, was established by Fred Sawyer in 1901, being a continuation of the Redfield Reflex. Attorney L. C. Ven Ornum established the first law practice in Turton in 1904.

Mr. John Steffes, who came to Dakota Territory in 1881, operated a threshing rig, run by steam for fifty years in the Turton community. He and James Kerr built the first garage in Turton in 1911.

In 1893 the first artesian well was drilled by Mr. Swan, on the hill south of town. Water pressure was great, spurting the water eighty feet into the sky.

Horse thievery in the early days was a major offense. One thief came into Turton in 1900. When apprehended, he threatened the life of the officer, A. E. Labrie, then escaped. He was caught and given a penitentiary sentence of four years. The horse, saddle, and bridle stolen were valued at about fifty dollars.

In 1897, the Ursulan nuns established a day and boarding school and in 1906 the Sisters of St. Louis. The original convent was on Linden Street, but later a portion of the building was moved to the hill west of town where it was expanded and developed into an orphanage named The Little Flower Home which cared for about sixty-five children.

The Roman Catholic Church was built in 1891, and the Congregational Church was completed and dedicated in August, 1893, with Reverend Dreisbach as first pastor. Prior to that time, religious services were conducted by both denominations in schoolhouses, halls, and depot waiting rooms. The first Congregational meetings were held in a sod shanty about four miles east of Turton.

The first recorded baptism in the Catholic parish was Frances Retterath, born October 18, 1883, and baptized November 25, 1883. Fathers Perrault, Bauer, Neibling and Robinson of Frankfort attended Turton from 1883 to 1894. Father Guenard was the first resident priest in Turton, serving from 1894 to 1915. The first Catholic Church was St. Louis Church, named for Louie Bellie, who gave much time and effort in its building. The new church, St. Joseph's, was named for Father Joseph Barre, who was pastor at the time of its erection.

The first small, one-room, schoolhouse was moved into Turton from northeast of town about 1895. Miss Elsie Benedict was the first teacher.

The first merry-go-round used for the St. John's Day Celebration was built by Eli Fregon. It had four seats and was horse powered. If the horse balked, the merry-go-round stopped.

Mr. Ponton was the town's early "Unforgettable Character", whose price for sharpening plowshares was thirty-five cents if cash, twenty-five cents if charged, because he said "The more you charge it, the more you lose it." His "books" were penciled notes on the blacksmith shop wall.

His successor, Mr. James Kerr, each July 4th, at about three or four o'clock in the morning, would "shoot off the anvil". He moved the anvil from the blacksmith shop into the street, placed a large amount of gunpowder on it, which was then ignited with a torch on the end of a long rod. The explosion was deafening, and a person was considered very unpatriotic if he didn't hear the blast. Old-timers speculated on the fact that it rained every Fourth of July, on which the anvil was "shot off".

Among the pioneer doctors, Dr. Crain is well remembered for his heroic efforts during the 1892 diphtheria epidemic. In mid-winter, he wore a red eiderdown mask to keep his face from freezing, and was packed around with hot soapstones. Many an operation was performed on a kitchen table, with just the family to help with the ether, instruments, and lamps. When there were deaths, burials were made in home-made coffins for this was before the day of the undertaker.

The concrete hitching blocks remain in Turton as a reminder of the horse and buggy days.

A NOBLER PEOPLE

Chapter Five

Historical sketches of the following churches of Spink County have been made available, and data concerning them is presented herewith:

ASSEMBLY OF GOD — Redfield
CATHOLIC — Athol — St Mary's
Frankfort — St. Ann's
Mellette — All Saints
Redfield — St. Bernard's
Turton — —St. Joseph's
CONGREGATIONAL — Athol
Brentford
Redfield
Turton
Zell (Wheaton)
EPISCOPAL — Redfield —— St .George's
LUTHERAN — Northville — Trinity Lutheran
Redfield — American Lutheran
Redfield — Our Savior's Lutheran
Mansfield — Trinity Lutheran
MENNONITE BRETHREN — Doland (Rural)
METHODIST — Crandon
Conde
Doland
Hitchcock
LaDelle
Northville
Redfield
Tulare
WESLEYAN METHODIST — Northville
Brentford
Redfield

INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORIES OF THE CHURCHES IN SPINK COUNTY

The courage, conviction, and determination which characterized the early pioneers were nowhere better expressed than in their desire to see that their religious faith became a living reality. Realizing the worship of God was just as much a part of their life as eating and breathing, the pioneers were intent from the very first to make religious faith and expression a paramount part of their lives.

When Spink County was first settled, denominational lines were not strong. Because of the lack of convenient and fast means of travel neighborhood meetings and get-togethers were held in different homes. The services included reading the Bible, singing familiar hymns and sharing inspirational experiences. The settlers realized that the one God whom they worshipped overarched the difference of interpretation which they had concerning their particular beliefs.

In the early 1880's as the population of the county grew and as religious leaders began coming into the area, congregations were formed. In some instances, the nucleus was made up largely of the members of a family clan. In other instances, the congregation was composed of the area neighbors of one faith. Whatever the situation, various denominations began sending their missionary leaders and pastors to minister to the people in their need. The leader from a particular denomination would travel from locality to locality serving as many as four or five congregations. Outdoor services and meetings were held as well as gatherings in the homes of the members.

Eventually when the congregation grew in numbers, there arose the need for a church building. In many instances, where only five or six families were united together by a common faith, a church was organized and started. In the simplest of surroundings and with meager means the pioneers took this forward step in the founding of a tangible expression of their religious fervor and spirit. For the pioneers it was often a case of traveling a great distance by horse and wagon, but the church hour in the sanctuary on Sunday morning gave them an opportunity to raise their voices in praise to God whom they realized to be the omnipotent giver of all life.

As towns began to grow and populations were centered, a great number of the small country congregations which had been meeting in homes or in schoolhouses became localized and drawn into the town churches. The spirit of fellowship with one another continued however, and the bonds of friendship and common goals expressed through the medium of the church helped the pioneer families grow in spirit and strength. With a steadfast faith in God and an ongoing trust in the basic goodness of life, they persevered through the extreme hardships and conditions of pioneer life.

For the early settlers their faith and trust in God was one of the basic foundations of their lives. Their faith was tested in the crucible of experience and it gave them courage to live for better days than they had known in the past.

The legacy which they have left us is demanding. In the days of nuclear armaments and space flights, we are challenged to continue the same quest for the will of God and the same belief in the positive goodness of life as characterized the early pioneers, whose only conception of armaments was the powder and musket and whose only vision of flight was that of the bird in the sky. What a chasm of experience and technology separates us from them! And yet their pioneering spirit and perseverance can be as much ours as it was theirs.

The centers of the expression of religious faith for the people in the early days, for the most part, were the following prairie churches:

Adelaide Danish Baptist Church: A country church six miles west and one-half mile north of Conde. Designed and financed by S. C. Anderson, a neighboring landowner who had formerly come from Denmark. The church is an exact duplicate of a church in Palestine which he had seen and admired on one of his several trips to the Holy Land. Mr. Anderson's death occurred in 1929 and his funeral services were held in this church.

Anderson School: In Clifton School District No. 8, in the northeast part of the county. Church services were held here in the early days under the auspices of Elder Joy of Farmington, N. H., who homesteaded a mile east of the school.

Barnes Sod Shanty: Four and one-half miles northeast of Conde. First church meetings of the vicinity were held there.

Bethany Lutheran Church: A country church in Section 11, in Mellette Township, one-half mile west of Mansfield. Built and named July 20, 1890 by Reier C. Halvorson, and T. O. Kittlesland, both members of the Lutheran Church. Two buildings have been erected since the first structure, one in 1900, and the present church in 1926.

Brink School: In Redfield School District No. 12, in central part of the county. Formerly called Canny School for Elder Canny, a pioneer minister who planned the construction of the school. It was used as one of his three churches.

Clemensen School: In Beotia School District No. 30, in the northeast part of the county. Formerly called Beotia School and located four miles west and two miles north of Conde. Early in 1883, a Methodist Sunday School class was organized and meetings were held here.

Deiter School, In Frankfort School District No. 4, in the central part of the county. Formerly called Allen School. Built in 1884 after pattern of a church under direction of Elder Canny and served as a church for many years. It was the second place in the county where church services were held, Belcher's Ford being the first.

Emmanuel Church: A Mennonite country church in Antelope Township one mile west and one and one-half miles north of LaDelle postoffice, in the Russian Settlement. Hagman's grove, three miles northeast of Redfield, where Turtle Creek joins the James River. For years the German Methodists convened here for their summer camp meeting.

Irving Church: A German Evangelical Church ten miles south and fives miles west of Doland. (1 mile south of the Irving postoffice and named for it.) Built in 1882 under the supervision of the Hoy Brothers, Samuel, Bishop of the church, Joseph and John, who came to Dakota Territory from Napoleon, Ohio, in 1881. The Evangelical Conference sold the church to the Mennonites in 1908. The Hoy families of Spink County, which consisted of 168 members at the time, resented the transaction and bought the church from that group, and gave it to the people of the Hoy neighborhood where it was used as a community church for many years.

Little Catholic Church and Burying Ground: A pioneer church and cemetery a few miles northeast of Mellette. So named for its diminutive size, by its Catholic congregation. The church was later moved to Mellette.

Nash School: In Redfield school district No. 12, in the southwest part of the county. Formerly known as Clark school. One of the three schools in the county the building of which was supervised by Elder Canny. Church was held here in the early days.

Rabuck School: Formerly known as Dow School. The building was erected in 1883 in the form of a church, under the supervision of Elder Canny, a pioneer minister of the county.

Roe Church: A country church built in 1882, ten miles south and three miles east of Doland. Named for William Roe, who owned land on which the church was built.

Rockwood Community Church: A country church six miles west of Irving Church. Minnie Budlong from Rockford, Illinois bought half a section of land in Cornwall Township and donated one acre and $100.00 to have a church built there. She requested that it be named Rockwood Church for her Illinois home. Erected in 1902 by members of the Evangelical church of the community. It later became a community hall. Sunday classes were held there, then, but not church services.

Rose Hill Church: A ghost pioneer church of the Mennonites fourteen miles south of Frankfort. The church building was razed several years ago. Named for the wild roses growing on the hill where the church was formerly located.

St. John's Lutheran Church: A country church nine miles west of Tulare. Named by the pioneer Lutherans of the Tulare community.

St. Mary's Catholic Church: A country church one and one-half miles north of Athol. Named by its congregation for the Virgin Mary.

Zion Lutheran Church: A pioneer church nine miles west and three miles south of Tulare. Named in 1882 by the Zion Synod of the Lutheran Church.

Taken from a Study of Place-Names in Spink County, South Dakota.

By Dana D. Harlow

On July 4, 1884, all religious organizations throughout the James Valley were invited to attend the first convention ever held for the purpose of getting better acquainted. They met at Lake Byron. Twenty-four different groups attended. A Reverend Mr. Moore was in charge, and additional meetings were planned by the group.

HISTORY OF ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH.

During the great move which started in the year of 1942, seven hundred fifty-eight new churches and Sunday Schools were started.

On October 22, 1944, Reverend P. T. Emmett, South Dakota District Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, Aberdeen, South Dakota, opened revival meetings with Evangelist Mildred E. Horton conducting services in the Commercial Hall over the Coast-to-Coast Store in Redfield. Many came to Sunday School and worship services as the time went on. The first Sunday School had seven present. Evangelist Mildred E. Horton was assisted later on by Miss Ada Blick from Yankton, South Dakota.

South Dakota District Superintendent Reverend W. E. Cummings, Mitchell, with pastors Mildred E. Horton and Ada Blick set the church in order March 18, 1948.

The trustees appointed were August Miller, Theodore Miller, Ralph Lutter, and Delbert Coates.

Those that signed as charter members were Mr. and Mrs. August Miller, Ruth Miller, Ruben Miller, Theodore Miller, Jeannette Miller, (Now

Mrs. Ralph Lutter). Mrs. John Tomsha, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Reed, Mrs. Albert Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Coates; also pastors Mildred E. Horton and Ada Blick. This group voted to look for a suitable location to have a church. Two lots were located at 513 Sixth Avenue, E., in a good locality, that were for sale by Mr. L. S. Goodell. At this time, the Immanuel Lutheran congregation had decided to build a new church, so their old building was for sale. After investigating the building, the proposition was considered. The building was purchased May 18-19. 1948, along with the two lots from Mr. L. S. Goodell.

The next big project was to build a basement foundation, and move the building to its new location at 513 Sixth Avenue, E., and on May 21, 1948 the men of the church with tractors, scoopers, shovels and picks began digging for the basement foundation. By June 2nd, the hole was dug and a cement footing was poured. During the months of June and July, the basement wall was laid up from cement blocks, and on July 22, 1948, the church building was on its foundation at its new location.

By November 23, 1948, the building project was done, and a dedication service was held at this time with Reverend W. C. Cummings, District Superintendent, officiating.

Many members came and went. Those who attended enjoyed Sunday School, worship service, vacation Bible School, healing campaign and evangelistic services down through the years. Two members of whom the church was proud, went to school to be ministers of the Gospel, Reverend Leo Miller, Spencer, Iowa, and Reverend Harry Waldner, Huron, South Dakota.

On August 16, 1951, Reverend Richard Luptie was appointed to take the place of Pastors Mildred E. Horton and Ada Blick.

On August 26, 1956, Rev. Luptie went to Mitchell, South Dakota, and the Reverend Walter Rice assumed the pastorate.

During the year of 1958 a new parsonage was built by Reverend Rice and the congregation of the church.

In the fall of 1958, hearts were saddened by the death of the Pastor's wife, who left her husband, seven children, and a host of friends.

In July, 1959, a dedication service was held for the parsonage. Reverend Givest, Assistant District Superintendent, officiated at the dedication.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, ATHOL

St. Mary's Catholic Church in Athol, was erected in either 1916 or 1917. Prior to that time the Catholics of that area attended their religious duties in Redfield. Mr. Robert Twiss, now deceased, was largely instrumental in the building of this church.

The Catholics of the Athol congregation have been served by the Priest resident in Mellette, since 1916.

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, FRANKFORT

Father Haire was the first missionary driving a horse and buggy from Aberdeen to Watertown to Huron, with stops at Redfield, Frankfort, and vicinity, twice each year. Mass was said in the homes and children were baptized.

The first church in Frankfort was built in 1884 with Father Perrault as pastor. During the same year, Father Perrault organized the parish of St. Bernard in Redfield. Shortly thereafter, Father Bunning came from Zell once each month until the fall of 1887.

Bishop Marty sent Father Bauer, who became the first resident pastor. He was succeeded by Father Niebling, in the spring of 1888, who served until December of that year.

Father Charles Robinson, newly ordained by Bishop Marty, came to Frankfort on January 8, 1889, serving the parish until September 20, 1889. On June 23, 1889, the original First Holy Communion Class here received Holy Communion.

Father Robinson administered ten mission points during his period of service in Frankfort. In addition to Frankfort, Sunday Masses were said at Clark, Turton, and Redfield. The other missions were administered to on week days since some of them had no churches. Mass was offered in homes, halls, or empty buildings.

The St. Ann's Altar Society was organized in 1890, with Mrs. John Kalscheuer, Mrs. Peter J. Valder, and Mrs. Stephen Strauss as officers.

The first High Mass was celebrated on All Saints Day, November 1, 1890 with Barbara Valder as organist.

Father Guenard succeeded Father Robinson, until October 1, 1896, when he was made resident pastor of Turton. St. Ann's was a mission of Turton until in 1900 when it was made a mission of Redfield, with Father Hermeling as pastor.

Father MacConnachie came to Redfield in 1901 and was pastor until in November, 1910.

In December, 1910, the present rectory was built, and the first pastor to occupy it was Father Harte, who was succeeded three months later (March, 1911), by Father P. A. Keilty, during whose stay Raymond was a mission of Frankfort. Under Father Keilty's direction, the location of the church was changed, facing east instead of south. The Altar Society was reorganized with Mesdames George Haag, Oliver Robinson, and John Noonan as officers. On March 1, 1914, Father Keilty was transferred, and Father McManus became the new pastor to serve the parish for four years, March, 1914 to March, 1918. Father Brezlin then served for a period of three months.

On August 15, 1918, Father S. J. MacCauliff came to Frankfort. In 1919-1920 an addition of twenty feet was built onto the west end of the church to accomodate the forty families of the parish.

Father Michael Kelly succeeded Father MacCauliff in the late fall of 1920. On March 19, 1922, the church burned with all of its contents, and only $500.00 of insurance was received. The present church was built that summer. Pews were put in and Stations of the Cross were hung. On Ash Wednesday of 1923 the Stations of the Cross were dedicated. On June 19, 1923, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Bernard Mahoney came to dedicate the church and to hold confirmation.

Father M. Kelley was transferred in September, 1923, and Father Duffy served for two months, succeeded by Father Alfred Rochon, December 1, 1923, who remained for six months. Father James A. Reilly came June 1, 1924, and administered until May, 1930. Father Eilers served the parish one Sunday before he was called elsewhere. Father Burkel came in May, 1931, and Father Ryan remained until March of 1934, when Father Rogan of Minnesota succeeded him for three months.

Father Francis Cronin, newly ordained, came to Frankfort in June, 1934. St. Ann's was his first parish. In 1937 he was transferred to Redfield. He was followed by Father Walsch who left September 30, 1938. Father Raymond Leiser was successor of Father Walsch as pastor at St. Ann's until 1944, and during his jurisdiction the parish became debt free. Following this, the Frankfort church became a mission of Redfield, with Father Cronin as pastor, Father MacConnachie coming for a few Sundays from Redfield.

During the spring of 1945, the church was a mission of Turton with Father Issenhuth as pastor; then Father Siebert became resident pastor, remaining until May, 1951. Father Mulkern then arrived, remaining until he was assigned to Turton. While at St. Ann's, he also instructed the children in catechism on Saturdays.

During the fall of 1952 Father Connelly came to the parish. His last Mass was celebrated on September 30, 1956. On October 7 of that year Father Kelly celebrated his first Mass in Frankfort. He remained until June 14, 1959. Two weeks later Father Mechtenberg arrived and remained until August 2, 1959. On August 9, of that year Father Power became the new pastor.

Ordained in Ireland, June 6. 1954, he came to the United States in September of 1954 and served as assistant pastor in Sioux Falls at the Little Flower Parish for seven weeks. Then he was appointed assistant pastor at the St. George's Parish in Armour, on November 7, 1954, and remained there until August 7, 1959, when he was appointed Administrator of St. Ann's Parish, Frankfort, with its Mission at Doland.

During his stay in the parish a long sought hope of the people of St. Ann's parish is within weeks of being a reality. An extensive repair and improvement project is under way, especially in the basement. What was originally a dugout underneath the church is now a spacious hall. An extension is being added for kitchen facilities, a furnace room and an enlarged Sacristy. The contractor for the project is Mr. Joe Hartung, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Father Power says that this project would not have been possible, had it not been for the wonderful cooperation given, and the generosity of the people of St. Ann's Parish. To one and all who gave their time and effort to the realization of this worthy project he conveys his heartfelt thanks.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH, MELLETTE

Catholicity first came to this area in Spink County in the late years of the nineteenth century. German Catholic families emigrated from south-central Wisconsin, bringing with them their Catholic faith and resolutions to build on the Dakota prairies an integral life, including the practice of Catholicism. Earliest records list the names of the Braun, Morgen, Thelen, Fischback, Sprowl, Schneider, and Frey families.

The first church built in this area was known as the "Braun" Church, erected by the community of Catholics living northeast of Mellette, and cared for by clergy from Aberdeen. In 1898 or 1899 the first Catholic Church was built in Mellette itself. This congregation was served only periodically by priests coming from Conde and Onaka.

In 1916, the Catholics erected the present Rectory, and the Rev. Daniel Quillan took up residence in Mellette, the first Pastor of All Saints' parish. Since that time, Mellette's Catholics have been served by a resident priest. Of those clergy still living, former Mellette Pastors include: the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Leonard Sullivan, of Sioux Falls; the Very Reverend Casimir Mociun, of Sioux Falls; the Very Reverend P. C. Conway, V.F. of Salem, South Dakota; and the Rev. Donald Liepold of Clark, South Dakota.

The last Mass offered in the original Catholic Church in Mellette was celebrated by the present Pastor, the Rev. Thomas J. Ryan, on Easter Sunday, April 2, 1961. This church was then demolished to give way to a new structure, now under construction.

ST. BERNARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, REDFIELD

1884-1961

Father Haire came from Michigan and filed upon a homestead near Columbia. During the winter of 1881 and 1882 he made a trip through the middle of Spink County, coming to Redfield on the train. He was taken by team to the home of J. E. Labrie, twenty-five miles northeast. The next day after having said Mass and having baptized several children, he was driven some twenty-five miles east across the prairie to the next house, the Mike Kelly ranch, where he married Mike, and was then taken to the James Hoy farm on the James River, near what is now Frankfort. Here he said Mass and baptized a child, and then proceeded to the Thomas Bergin farm near Redfield, where he again said Mass.

(Father Haire, in later years, was chaplain at St. Luke's Hospital in Aberdeen, where he died about ten years ago.)

During the next two or three years, Mass was said in the homes of some of the early residents of Redfield by Father Haire and Father LeMeche. In 1884 Father J. G. Perrault from St. Ann's Parish at Frankfort organized the parish of St. Bernard in Redfield. A frame church 26 feet by 40 feet was erected and a cross was placed upon it as there was no money available to build a steeple. The parish was taken care of for a few years by Father Charles Robinson of Frankfort.

In 1894, Father John Hermeling, who was ordained at St. Viators, in Bourbonnais, Illinois, came to Redfield as the first resident priest. Since there were only ten families in the parish at that time he built a home without benefit of parish assistance.

Bishop Marty made his first visit to St. Bernard's in 1890, staying at the Foster House, since there was not a Catholic in the parish who had a home in which he could be accommodated. The next episcopal visit was made by Bishop O'Gorman, in 1902. This was a memorable event since there were more than seventy-five confirmations from Redfield and vicinity, and the church was not large enough to contain them at one time.

In October, 1900, Reverend George MacConnachie came to Redfield. Since no parish house was available, he rented a small room and boarded at the hotel. He also had missions at Athol, Mellette, Frankfort, Tulare, and Burdette. At the death of Father Roesel, Zell was also a mission for about two years.

In 1902 a new parish house was built and in 1909 the new church was completed. The present church was built under the supervision of Father MacConnachie. The foundation is of granite boulders taken from the prairie, Father MacConnachie blasting those that were too large to load in wagons. They were cut and dressed by expert Norwegian stone cutters who had just arrived from the old country. The Church was built of Springfield, Minnesota brick, trimmed with Bedford stone, and is of Romanesque style, the design being by several architects under the supervision of the pastor. It is splendidly equipped with High Altar, statuary, oak pews, magnificent stations of the cross. It has stained glass windows, of beautiful design, donated by members of the parish, the South Dakota Traveling Men, employees of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, the Elks, Knights of Columbus, and other organizations.

The church was dedicated October 24, 1910, by Bishop O'Gorman, in the presence of a large gathering of priests and laity from all parts of the state. The bishop paid the highest compliments to the parish when he made the remark that from the poorest and smallest church, the parish now possessed the best constructed and most beautiful church in the diocese.

During the time of Reverend Francis A. Cronin's service in St. Bernard's parish, (1937-1945), the rectory and church were repaired and renovated. The entire exterior of the church was re-pointed and renovated in 1959 with new walks and steps being added.

In the last twenty years, many Catholic families have located in the city and vicinity, and at the present time the parish of St. Bernard's is in a very flourishing condiion.

In 1900 St. Bernard's Parish was composed of ten households. In 1961, it has two hundred ninety-one households.

Pastors who have served the parish since 1900 are as follows: Reverend George MacConnachie, 1900-1937; Reverend Francis A. Cronin, 1937-1945; Reverend Charles Krouse, 1945-1949; Reverend Paul Quinn, 1949-1954; Reverend William Issenhuth, 1955-1958; and Reverend Leonard F. Stanton, 1959- date.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, TURTON

The pioneers who came to the Turton community, in the early 1880's, from Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Canada, brought with them, not only their meager personal belongings, but their undying faith, the Holy Roman Catholic Faith, which endured during prosperity and adversity.

There were no spacious Gothic edifices for Holy Mass and other religious devotions, but small schools and homes were used for these Holy rites. Missionaries walked from as far as Yankton, South Dakota, to administer the Holy Sacraments to the faithful, along their long tedious journey. Father Robert Haire, whose monument is erected on the campus of Northern State Teachers College in Aberden, South Dakota, was one of these Holy men.

Previous to establishing a parish in Turton, Catholic pioneers attended services in Frankfort, South Dakota, and many of the early pioneers are buried in the Frankfort cemetery.

The first recorded baptism in the parish was Frances Retterath Thome, born October 18, 1883. She was baptized November 25, 1883. Other names in the baptismal records of the early '80's were Kalscheuer, Ward, LaFond, Nicholas, Micheal, Iambor, Brosseau, Thomas, Perrault, Bourassa, Labrie, Grandpre, Daley, Lambert, Blain, McAllen, Sullivan, Coleman. Kenneally, Martin, Lenz, Mannie, Cadieux, Norton, Fortier, Stoeckel, Bissette, Desauriers, Johnson, LeBlanc, Galvin, Chausse, Wolf, LaMay, Toboski, Toucher, LaTrimonille, Roman, Hamilton, Eck, Shurer, Rengier, McDonald, Halada, Cook, Dix, Pemrick, Cleckner, Durbin, Rodeen, Dubuque, Aquin, Lapland, Klapperich, Steffes, Miles, and many, many others.

Fathers Perrault, Bauer, Neibling, and Robinson attended the Turton parish from 1883 to 1896. Father Guenard was the first resident priest. He was pastor in Turton from 1896 until 1915, then went to Pierre, South Dakota, where he was chaplain of the Catholic hospital. Father Guenard was followed by Fathers J. M. Barre (1915), J. P. Luckie (1921), P. J. Cafferky (1921), M. J. Lennon (1923), J. P. Halpin (1926), B. J. Maguire (1928), T. P. Coyne (1928), M. McManus (1937), William Issenhuth (1945), J. E. Mulkern (1951), Father William Power (1960).

The first Catholic Church was built in 1891 by members of the parish. Mr. Ferdinand Labrie supervised the work. The church was named in honor of St. Louis.

After twenty-eight years, St. Louis church was too small to comfortably take care of its growing membership. A larger church was needed. On November 19, 1919, the cornerstone for a new Catholic church, St. Joseph Church, was laid. Father Barre was the pastor at that time.

It was erected on the hill south of town, a Gothic-styled, red brick structure with an aluminum steeple cross, which can be seen for many miles. After several years of drought and depression, the church was cleared of all indebtedness. The interior of the building was completely redecorated in 1948.

In early 1897 the Ursulan order of Nuns established a day and boarding school in Turton. Later the Benedictine Nuns managed the school and in 1906 the Sisters of Charity of St. Louis took charge.

The original Convent was on Lindon Street, but, as the enrollment grew, a portion of the building was moved to the hill west of town, where it was expanded and developed into an orphanage. There were about sixty-five orphans and approximately the same number of day pupils who received care and education with religious training at this accredited grade school, "the Little Flower Home," under the guidance of Reverend Mother Louise of Jesus (deceased).

The parish has always through the years had one of the best choirs in the state and during Father Issenhuth's pastorate an electric organ was purchased by the parishioners.

Three girls from Turton joined religious orders, Ann Barrie (Sister St. Berniece), Elizabeth Remily (Sister St. Laurence), and Ardis Cloutier (Sister St. Mario).

"In the early 1880's the Seed was sown and, despite drought and depression, the Seed continues to grow and will do so until the end of time."

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ATHOL

On September 11, 1881, Sabbath services were held at 2:00 P.M. at the home of Mr. Eliphalet Rollins, about one mile east of town, by Reverend E. H. Alden.

After the services, they decided to organize a Congregational Church. The charter members were: Esek McCoy, from Ceescot, Ontario; E. H. Alden, from Waseca, Minnesota; James Rollins and Mrs. Emma Rollins, his wife; Mrs. Carrie Williams; and Mrs. Mary McCoy.

This new church was welcomed into the sisterhood of Congregational Churches of Dakota. Truly, this little band of five brave souls, led by their pastor, "Builded better than they knew," for now, afer seventy-five years, the Athol Church still lives to minister to this people and to lead on to higher and nobler aspirations and achievement. Reverend E. H. Alden, the first pastor, and this little band proceeded at once to build a suitable house of worship. With all the courage and ambition of those early pioneers, they had completed one room so it was available for services for most of that winter of 1881 and 1882.

On July 1, 1882, Lot One, on which our church now stands, was purchased from Albert and Harriet Keep by the Trustees of the church, for the sum of one dollar. The Athol Ladies Aid purchased Lot Two west of the church on July 10, 1909, from the Western Town Lot Company, for the sum of $30.00. However, Jessie Wilson held a tax deed on this lot and on October 13, 1913, she gave the Athol Congregational Church a quit claim deed on Lot Two for the consideration of One Dollar.

This church was dedicated August 20, 1882. Reverend Stewart Sheldon, missionary superintendent of Yankton, preached the dedicatory sermon.

While serving as pastor here, Rev. Alden went to the East and returned with a "very stylish bride." He continued in the pastorate for some years, and later returned to his beloved New England, where he rests among the granite hills and scenes of his childhood.

Mrs. James A. Smith of Minneapolis gave the first pulpit Bible to the "Congregational Church of Athol, Dakota."

Mrs. Anna Schwenn remembers when she and her brother did janitor work in this first church.

September 9, 1906 a special service was held to commemorate the 25th anniversary of our organization. Rev. Alden's business interests brought him just at that time, and he preached his last sermon in our church on that occasion from the text "Looking Unto Jesus."

Early in the spring of 1917, under the leadership of Reverend Robert Stemme, with his youthful enthusiasm, and his devotion to the cause he so dearly loved, it was decided to build a new church upon the site of the old one, which was sold and removed. Frank Williams was contractor for the new church, and also made the pulpit that we use today.

This church was dedicated to the service of God on April 14, 1918. Reverend George Williams, assistant superintendent, preached the dedicatory sermon from the text "The Joy of the Lord is our Strength." Dr. Thrall offered the dedicatory prayer and after a brief address undertook the raising of sufficient funds to pay all indebtedness. This was quickly done and we had the joy of dedicating our little church free of debt.

Services have been held in this church continuously for the seventy-five years. There were years when Athol had a full time minister and years when they shared their minister with the Ashton Congregational Church. During the years of 1921-1925, this church was incorporated with the larger parish of Redfield under the leadership of Reverend Samuel Johnson.

Mr. A. W. Galligher of Huron is now the supply pastor.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BRENTFORD

This church was built in 1906. The first minister was Reverend S. Youtz of Chicago. He dedicated the church on July 14, 1907. The Ladies' Union, the women's society of this church, was organized in 1908. In 1958, it celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, REDFIELD

The First Congregational Church of Redfield was organized on December 23, 1880. Reverend A. J. Canney was its pastor until April, 1882. The charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. K. L. Hassell, Albert T. Dikeman, William H. Welker, Reverend and Mrs. A. J. Canney, and Miss Anna Canney.

The first church building was dedicated December 11, 1881. It was located on the southwest corner of the present public school property. It was a 30 x 40 foot frame building about 16 feet high, with a steep roof and no entry way or tower. There was no paint or paper inside or out, pews were kitchen chairs and benches, and a borrowed reed organ was used.

1882 - 1885, Rev. George Lindsey, pastor. The church was painted inside and out. Twenty new members were added. The Ladies' Society was organized and some missionary work begun.

1885 - 1887, Rev. David R. Tomlin, pastor. The ladies' group took the name, "Ladies' Benevolent Society." Fifty-four new members were added to the church during this period. The Christian Endeavor Society and a Junior Christian Endeavor Society were organized.

1887 - 1891, Rev. David Beaton, President of Redfield College, pastor. The church building was extended to double the seating capacity. Sixty-three new members were added to the church.

1891 - 1893, Rev. William H. Thrall, pastor. In May of 1893, Rev. Thrall was called to become the State Superintendent of our Congregational Conference and he held this position for twenty-eight years.

1893 - 1902, Rev. Lauriston Reynolds, pastor. A new parsonage was built in 1893 at a cost of $1100.00.

1902 - 1905, Rev. Frederick W. Long, pastor.

1905 - 1910, Rev. Samuel J. Beach, pastor. The present church was built in 1908, and dedicated on April 25, 1909. Redfield College Commencement was held in the church in 1909.

1910 - 1914, Rev. Stephen G. Butcher, pastor. A Moller pipe organ was installed at a cost of $2750.00 and dedicated December 27, 1914. A $1250.00 grant from Andrew Carnegie was received, and the remaining cost paid by individual contributions.

1914 - 1915, September, 1914 to September, 1915 without a resident pastor.

1915 - 1918, Rev. John P. Clyde, pastor.

1918 - 1925, Rev. Samuel Johnson, pastor. The Larger Parish was organized and included the Redfield church and several small country churches in the area. This work was supervised by Rev. Johnson, who was assisted by several pastors. This was the era of the popuar "Sunday Evening," when motion pictures were used at Sunday evening services in our church. Church services were suspended during November, 1918 bcause of the influenza epidemic.

1925 - 1928, Rev. Hiram B. Harrison, pastor. The forty-fifth annivesary was celebrated in 1926.

1928 - 1929, Rev. Marshall M. Knappen, pastor.

1929 - 1936, Rev. Ray M. Miller, pastor. Choir robes were first used during this time, and their use lent much dignity to the worship service.

1936 - 1943, Rev. J. E. Robinson, pastor. On the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the church, more than 450 candles were lighted at a memorial ceremony on November 17, 1940. Rev. Samuel Johnson conducted the morning service. Following a complete re-decoration, a re-dedication service was held on February 8, 1942. Dr. S. W. Keck, State Superintendent, delivered the sermon.

1944 - 1951, March 1944, to December 1951, Rev. George Reinmuth, pastor. This was a period of prosperity and growth. The State Conference meeting was held here in 1946. A new heating plant was installed in 1950. A new altar, pulpit, and pulpit chair were presented as memorials.

1952 - 1952, January, 1952 to December, 1952, Rev. William G. Bohi, pastor. A large class of new members was added during this year.

1952 - 1953, December 1952 to April, 1953, the Church was without a resident pastor. Under the supervision of H. O. Fish, the parsonage was remodeled during these months.

1953 - 1957, April, 1953, Rev. Hugo Flaig, pastor. First use of new choir robes on Easter Sunday, 1954. A March, 1955 fire destroyed the study and spread into the sanctuary before being extinguished. Complete re-building project in sanctuary, study and kitchen begun immediately. Beckman Memorial Study dedicated in October, 1955, and the first service in the new sanctuary was held on December 11, 1955. Re-building of pipe organ completed, spring of 1956. Seventy-fifth Anniversary observance, June 15 - 17. Re-dedication of sanctuary, June 17, 1956. Festival sermon by Dr. Ralph Hoffman, Superintendent of the South Dakota Congregational Conference.

1957 - 1958, Church without a pastor. Everett Blume, church cabinet chairman.

1958 - September, 1958, Rev. John Sheild, pastor. Exterior of the church re-pointed in 1959. New basement cement floor put in and tiled in 1960 - 1961. The church hosts South Dakota Congregational State Conference, on May 4 to 7th; 400 delegates and visitors in attendance.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, TURTON

It was about 1886 when the Protestant people near Turton began to meet and have church services. At first, they had no affiliation with any conference. Some of the first meetings were held in a sod shanty about four miles northeast of Turton, near the home of Nat Wales' father. Then, services were held in a schoolhouse which had been built on the corner just east of Turton. Later the meetings were held in the waiting room of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad depot. The railroad furnished the coal and lights and made no charge for the use of their building. For a time prior to the building of the church, the group met in the room above the Kohlman store. It was about this time that the group decided to affiliate with the Congregational Conference.

In 1892 there was a bounteous crop and at the urging of the pastor who had been driving from Frankfort for services they decided to build a church building.

The following spring they began work. Ferdinand Labrie was hired as carpenter, and overseer, and the men of the congregation helped erect the building. The building was completed by August. The building committee consisted of: Alexander Kerr, C. W. Derr, Charlie Deitrich, Mrs. Oldfield, and Mrs. Edds.

Rev. Dreisbach stayed on as pastor for a time, and then there were students from Redfield College who served as pastors. Mr. Lock, Mr. Simmons and Mr. Terkees, are some of the men remembered by old timers as those who came from the college to serve the church of Turton. These men came to Turton by train on Saturday, held services on Sunday, then someone had to take them to Doland to catch a train back to school early Monday morning. Ben Derr remembers it was often his job to drive the preacher to Doland, a job he welcomed as that Monday morning he didn't have to go to school.

The church was dedicated in August of 1893. This was the first Sunday that Mrs. Gilbert Bovee was in attendance. She had recently been married to Mr. Bovee at Sparta, Wisconsin and they came to Turton to establish their home. They became members of the church and remained so the rest of their lives.

Church records show that a Reverend R. J. Locke was called to be pastor on October 6, 1895, a position he filled for about two years. A Rev. Van Lein and Rev. Barrows followed, then Rev. Dawson was called in 1900. He served the congregation for something like four years.

The church continued in its work through good times and lean. Many times the pastor's salary was in arrears, and the Ladies Aid went to work, serving suppers and selling handiwork to raise money to meet the needs.

When the church building was built, the Congregational Building Society made a grant to this congregation of five hundred dollars. In 1948, a drive was made to liquidate that obligation and on January 2, 1949, a mortgage burning ceremony was held. Mrs. Gilbert Bovee and Carrie Cunningham Taylor, both very early members did the actual burning ceremony.

The names of some of the pastors remembered by the long-time members, are Rev. Dawson, Rev. Canfield, Rev. Williams, Rev. Whalley, Rev. E. P. Swartout, Rev. H. M. Bissel, Rev. G. G. Bell who came from Huron for several years, and there were other lay pastors also. Rev. George Hartz came in 1955, and Einar Michaelsen in 1958.

WHEATON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Guy P. Squire, while a student in the Redfield College, acted as Missionary for the summer in a little Congregational Church known as Beulah, in Hand County. It paid only $175.00 per year, but as teachers were badly needed in the schools, Mr. and Mrs. Squire both taught schools to supplement their living. Thus, the Wheaton Congregational Church had its beginning.

February 14, 1904. Council Recognition held at Mills Schoolhouse, Wheaton Township, Hand County, South Dakota. Redfield Congregational Church represented by L. M. Miles, individuals, Rev. W. H. Thrall and Rev. C. M. Daley. First meeting of Organized Church. Named, "Congregational Church of Wheaton."

April 10, 1904. First Church Officers: Pastor, G. P. Squire; deacon, Mr. Thomas McCausland; Trustees, McCausland, E. A. Miller, Lewis Sisson, Jessie Hinckley, Fred Bobseen; Clerk, George Sisson; Deacon and S. S. Supt., Wm. Sisson; Moderator, G. P. Squire.

April 11, 1904. Articles of Incorporation drawn up before Notary Public, sworn to by Pastor, Trustees and Clerk.

May 1, 1904. Locating church building. To locate the Church one mile east of Mills Schoolhouse. Applied to Congregational Building Society for aid in erecting the church.

May 2, 1904. Mr. McCausland instructed to get one acre of land donated, upon which to locate church. Southeast corner of Southeast quarter of Section 17, Township 115, Range 66.

May 29, 1904. Voted to employ a steam engine to move the Church, which is to be purchased from Greenleaf. George Sisson elected Treasurer.

June 7, 1904. Greenleaf refuses to sell building, decided to seek aid from Congregational Building Society to erect a church.

June 9, 1904. First meeting in Wheaton Congregational Church. Certificates of completion of house of worship prepared to be sent to Congregational Building Society. Agreed to take up collection once a year for the Building Society.

May 7, 1905. Mr. Squire retained as pastor.

December 31, 1905. Motion moved and carried for pledge of $500.00 for building of parsonage.

July 2, 1910. Rev. Squire resigned. Rev. Thrall secured to address people at a special meeting to discuss ways and means to secure joint and united action of Congregational Church of North Hand County, in matters of their interest and welfare.

January 5, 1911. Rev. Josephsen hired.

October 22, 1911. Rev. Held hired.

November 17, 1912. Rev. E. J. Reynolds hired.

July 27, 1913. This day the Wheaton Congregational Church has accepted the Council's Manuals for a Congregational Church as their rules hereafter. Rev. Reynolds' last sermon Sepember 28, 1913.

September 28, 1913. Rev. Chord hired, starting November, 1913.

October 28, 1914. Rev. Chord resigned. Call made to W. R. Sisson; hired for five years, beginning January 1, 1915.

March 11 to March 31, 1917. Revival meetings held, very inspiring for all. Twenty new members united.

April 13, 1919. W. R. Sisson resigns, call made to A. J. Wolfe of Cleveland, Va., to come June 1st. Rev. Sisson was a very conscientious man and devoted to this work; he especially enjoyed working with the young people. Under his leadership, the Church prospered, over forty new membrs united. He was instrumental in organizing our Missionary Society. He and Mrs. Sisson gave of their best for the good of the church and community.

September, 1919. Mr. Trefethren hired as pastor.

March, 1920. Call made to A. J. Whalley of England. Accepted.

December 11, 1921. Decided unanimously to unite for a year with the larger parish, Redfield.

September 28, 1924. Decided to leave the larger parish, to remain out for a year and then reconsider the question. Rev. Hosking given a call.

Accepted. Worship time changed. Time of Sunday School from 1:00 p.m. to 10:30 a.m., and Church time from 2:00 p.m. to 11:30 a.m.

October 19, 1924. Motion made and carried to unite with Sunbeam in employing a minister to live in the Wheaton parsonage.

March 1, 1925. Mr. Eisenach and Mr. Schwindt as pastors until June 1st. Mr. Eisenach returns for a longer period.

July 8, 1925. Unanimously agreed to start a Christian Endeavor Society, to unite with Sunbeam and alternate services.

June, 1926. Benjamin Kissler accepts call.

July 1, 1928. Mr. Kissler resigns. Mr. Kissler served Wheaton as minister for two years. His splendid Christian character won its way into the hearts of the people. Mr. Rentz hired until June 1, 1929. Under his leadership the church prospered.

June 26, 1930. Fred Hunt accepted as minister until September. Mr. Eads given a call. Accepted.

January 24, 1934. Mr. Ray Haun given a call. Accepted. Rev. and Mrs. Haun served Wheaton during the drought and depression period, and, in spite of shortage of finances, and through hardship and discouragements, the church moved steadily forward. They were loved by both young and old alike. They gave their untiring efforts for the welfare of the church and the entire community. It was with deep regret when Wheaton Church and Community bade farewell to Ray and Larea Haun and family. Homecoming planned for middle of August.

December, 1938. Rev. Paul Orcutt accepts call. Rev. Orcutt was one of our younger ministers, neverthless he was very efficient and was deeply earnest and sincere in everything he said and did and was always willing to help out wherever he could.

October 1, 1942. Rev. Douglas Barrows, who is our present minister, began his pastorate as a temporary supply October 1, 1942. He served as a licensed minister until he was ordained, the Ordination Service taking place at Wheaton Church October 29, 1952, with Dr. Ralph Hoffman of Huron officiating, and Rev. Irvin Barrows, retired minister and father of Douglas Barrows, giving the Prayer of Ordination. Douglas has served Wheaton Church and the community efficiently and faithfully. He travels thirty-five miles from his home near Faulkton to Wheaton each Sunday morning and then on to Sunbeam for services before returning home. At times he has labored under adverse conditions, such as poor health, and bad weather and roads. But he has always put service to others ahead of self, in carrying on God's work and serving humanity. Douglas and Katherine and family are held in the highest respect and esteem by the people of Wheaton Church and community.

November 12, 1944. Douglas Barrows given call to become our resident minister, unable to accept, but would continue as minister. Decided to remodel the Church interior.

July 14, 1947. Decided to sell parsonage and barn.

December 14, 1952. Decided to pay the old grant mortgage of

$400.00 to the Congregational Church Building Society.

December 20, 1953. The 50th Anniversary Celebration planned; to be in August, 1954. $100.00 paid on Building loan fund by Church. $100.00 paid by Sunday School.

May 9, 1954. A fund was started toward an electric organ for the church.

Douglas Barrows still continues to serve as pastor.

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, REDFIELD

The Western Town Lot Company, of Iowa, said lot one of Block three, Redfield, to the Chapter of Calvary Cathedral, January 3, 1888. This property is located on West 2nd St., where the Ringneck Lodge now stands.

In October, 1895, Calvary Cathedral sold this property to Mary E. Packard. The Packards remodeled the church into a home, where they lived for several years.

Bishop William Hare was a Missionary Bishop of Dakota Terditory at that time.

In September, 1898, Louise Mauret sold the West 85 ft. of lots 20-21-22, of Block 8, Albert Keep's First Addition to and Re-Subdivision of Blocks 8 to 12, to Calvary Cathedral. This is the present location of St. George's Church. At the time the deed was given for this property it was known as St. John's Mission. A year later, a deed was recorded from St. John's Mission to Calvary Cathedral, correcting the previous deed.

At that time, H. P. Packard was Senior Warden, G. F. Johnson was Clerk, and C. E. Stutenroth was Treasurer of St. George's Church.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, NORTHVILLE

The Trinity Lutheran Church began services in 1882 when a missionary named Reverend Hinke came from Groton to preach. Services were first held in the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad depot in Northville, and then in different homes of members of the congregation, until the group became too large for the houses. Services were then held in a schoolhouse in the township. In 1886, the church was organized and in 1888 the first church was built in the Northwest corner of the township on the Northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 119, Range 65. In 1900 an addition was built to the church.

In 1923 the present church was constructed. The church has a large membership, and a number of territorial pioneers still attend.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH, REDFIELD

In 1883, the first services were held by Pastor David Lebahn.

In December, 1892 the congregation of eleven members decided to build a church, each member pledging $25.00 toward the project.

On September 27, 1893, the Congregation was incorporated with August Brockman, Treasurer; F. C. Strauss, Secretary; and Gustav Strauss, Elder.

In June, 1893, the first church was dedicated with Reverend August Zimmermann of Eureka, South Dakota and Prof. Max Fritschel of Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, as guest speakers.

In 1899, the congregation remained faithful to the Iowa Synod while the rest of the parish joined the Evangelical Church.

In 1900, a house was bought and moved to a lot north of the church to serve as the parsonage for the congregation.

In 1910, the Redfield parish now consisted of congregations at Redfield, Crandon, Turtle Creek and Zell.

In 1910, the parish became self-supporting and called W. A. Burzlaff as its pastor at an annual salary of $525.00.

September 21, 1919, the parish numbered some eighty-five members, paying a pastor's salary of $1,150.00, and furnished an automobile.

On May 16, 1948, the congregation voted to sell the present church building to the Assembly of God Church for $2,500.00 cash.

On June 6, 1948, the last worship service was held in the old church.

On August 8, 1948, the congregation voted to build a basement church for $10,000.00.

August 19, 1948, excavation for basement church was begun.

November 29, 1948, Herman and Carl Dobratz began laying the brick and tile.

On January 16, 1949, to July 1, 1950, the congregation was without a pastor.

July, August and September, 1950, the men of the congregation worked every night to finish the basement church.

On September 17, 1950, the first worship service was held in the basement church.

January, 1952, the congregation began to make plans for the completion of the church. The Building Fund was again started.

On January 9, 1955, at the annual meeting of the congregation the congregation voted to explore the possibility of building in 1955. The president of the congregation, Lorrey Nelson, appointed a committee of four to look into the matter. Members of the committee were: Harry Nork, Walter Schnittgrund, Henry Schroeder, and Rudy Schelske.

On March 6, 1955, Special meeting of the congregation was called to consider the bid of the Whitman Construction Company for $45,000.00 to build the church. Congregation voted unanimously to accept the bid and build in the spring of 1955.

On March 20, 1955, the Building Fund Drive was started with a goal set at $20,000.00.

On May 25, 1955, contract was signed in the name of the congregation by trustees of the congregation, Lorrey Nelson, Lester Mischke, and Glenn Mager, with the Whitman Construction Company, of Garretson, South Dakota.

On June 3, 1955, excavation of 28'6" extension to present basement church was commenced.

July 9, 1955, cement for the walls for basement extension was poured by a crew of twenty men from the congregation.

On July 10, 1955, the brick layers began their work.

On July 24, 1955, the last service held in basement church was held by congregation until the present building was near completion. Worship services were held in State Theater.

On August 28, 1955 the corner-stone laying service was held.

On December 4, 1955, worship services again were held in basement of church.

On March 25, 1956, the first worship service was held in the new church.

On May 13, 1956, the dedication of the new church was observed.

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, REDFIELD

In 1881, a church was organized in Redfield by the Norwegian Lutherans. The congregation was affiliated with the Norwegian Synod. This organization was dissolved in 1882, Services continued by visiting pastors.

On May 7, 1905, Our Savior's Lutheran Church was organized.

On November 21, 1907, the church was re-organized. A constitution was adopted and the name of the congregation was "Our Savior's Congregation".

In 1908-1909 the Reverend R. U. Evjenth served as pastor. The congregation affiliated with the Hauges Synod.

In 1909 to 1913 Reverend A. K. Gaard was pastor.

On October 5, 1910, the congregation decided to build a church.

On May 7, 1911, the cornerstone laying service was held, and on August 27, the first service was held in the new church. On May 5, 1912 the church was dedicated.

From 1914 to 1915, Reverend S. K. Knutson was pastor. From 1916 to 1918 Reverend L. C. Jacobson was pastor. In 1917 the congregation affiliated with the ELC Synod. In 1919 St. Paul's Lutheran Church merged with Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

From 1920 to 1922 Reverend C. L. Lee was pastor. 1922 - 1926, Rev. J. W. Swanbeck; 1926 - 1929, Rev. L. E. Brynestad; from 1929 - 1933, Rev. C. S. Pederson; 1934 - 1938, Rev. L. M. Strand. In 1936 the twenty-fifth anniversary of the church was observed.

From 1939 to 1948 Reverend H. S. Bly was pastor. 1949 to 1953

Rev. O. G. Otterness.

In 1951, an active concern about building a new church began. In the early spring, a Building and Finance Committee was elected. Brotherhood adopted Lord's Acre Project. Harvest Festival was held for ingathering. September 16, the 40th anniversary of the church was observed.

From 1954 to 1958, Rev. A. E. Olson was pastor. In 1956, the congregation voted to purchase property for site of new church.

On March 31, 1957, Our Savior's Lutheran Church and St. John's Lutheran Church held a merger service.

On May 5, 1957, dedication of the ground and ground breaking services for the new church were held.

On May 11, 1957, the excavation was started for the new church.

June 24, 1957, actual construction of the church began.

On September 5, 1957, final approval was given to the architect's plan for the new church building and educational unit.

On April 13, 1958, cornerstone laying service was held.

On August 17, 1958, T. G. Wicks was installed as pastor.

On November 30, 1958, New Church Entrance Service.

On May 17, 1959, Dedication of the new Church.

Since April 1, 1961, church is served by interim pastor H. O. Scobey.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, REDFIELD

Reverend H. P. Quist, traveling missionary in South Dakota, for the Minnesota Conference, Augustana Synod, preached in Redfield, August 24, 1896.

In 1908 a Swedish Lutheran Church was organized in Redfield, and called the St. Paul's Lutheran Church. It was affiliated with Minnesota Conference, Augustana Synod. There were twenty communicant members, and ten children. In 1910 they purchased the former Catholic Church building. From 1908 to 1911, Reverend L. J. Lundquist served as pastor. From 1915 to 1917, Reverend C. E. Cesander served as pastor. In 1917 there were twenty-six communicant members, nineteen children, and Sunday School with three teachers, and sixteen pupils.

In 1919, on March 23, this church merged with Our Savior's Lutheran Church, and the church was made into a parsonage in 1920 for Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, REDFIELD.

In 1910 the congregation organized with Reverend Wiederaender conducting the meeting. Nine men and their families became charter members of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. The congregation was to be part of a two-point parish with Immanuel Lutheran Church at Redfield.

In 1911, the first annual meeting was held, a constitution was adopted and board of trustees elected. The Rev. W. A. Burzlaff began his pastorate. In April, the cornerstone for a new church building was laid. On August 27, the church was dedicated.

In 1925, the Ladies' Aid was organized, with eighteen charter members. The Luther League was organized with fifteen charter members.

In 1947, the interior of the church was remodeled. In 1948, a new English constitution was adopted. In 1949, the congregation voted to join the American Lutheran Synod. In 1952, the congregation purchased the Crandon school from the Crandon School District, and remodeled it to be used as a parish hall. In 1954, the Redfield-Crandon parish was dissolved. In 1956, the congregation severed its affiliation with the American Lutheran Synod.

In 1957, on March 10th, after successful merger negotiations with Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Redfield, the congregation began worshipping at Our Savior's Lutheran; On March 31st, a merger service consummated the merger with Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Redfield.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, MANSFIELD.

On May 30, 1882, Henry Heidenreich and William Boekelheide, two immigrants of German nationality and Lutheran faith, came to Dakota Territory. After Mr. Heidenreich had completed building a shack, his mother and sister, who had been staying in St. Louis, Missouri came to keep house for him. The next year, two other young men came to file claims, and soon others of their respective families came. Then came the Missionary, who went from place to place. He had no definite home.

The first church services were conducted in the Chicago & Northwestern depot at Northville. Later services were conducted in homes, but, as the congregation grew, a schoolhouse in Northville township was used.

The first missionary to establish a mission place in the region was the Reverend T. Hinck who came to Groton in 1882. He visited each preaching point every fourth or sixth week. At one of the first services conducted in the Northville depot, Reverend Hinck baptized Anna Nierman, later Mrs. Gottlieb Bierman. The first wedding was that of William Boekelheide and Louise Krieger in the spring of 1884.

After Reverend Hinck went to Ellendale, North Dakota, in 1885, a student of theology, Leimer, served the parish until the fall of 1886, when Pastor Fischer came. Trinity congregation was organized shortly after his arrival.

The charter members of the congregation were: Henry Heidenreich, William Boekelheide, Fred Boekelheide, William Bierman, Henry Elsing, William Elsing, and Carl Berndt.

Five members each donated five dollars and bought a tract of land from the Beater Brothers. The deed bears the date June 27, 1888. Soon after this, the construction of the first church was begun and dedication services were held October 21, 1888.

The first confirmation class in 1888 consisted of one member, Mr.

Henry Borchard.

When Pastor Fischer accepted a call to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, a student of Theology, Schwanke, served as pastor. In 1889 Reverend George Ferber was called and stayed until 1892. A student of Theology, Sell, filled the vacancy until Reverend Kiess came later the same year. In 1893 the first parsonage was built on the church grounds. In 1895 a student of Theology, H. Luebke was called to assist Reverend Kiess. This was also the year that Trinity congregation became a member of the Missouri Synod. In 1897 Reverend Kiess accepted a call to Minnesota, and then candidate Reverend H. Luebke was called. He served until 1923.

In 1900 the church was incorporated under the South Dakota State Laws. The second church was built in 1900, at a cost of $1250.00.

After Reverend H. Luebke, came Reverend C. F. Kellerman in 1923. The present church was built in 1926 and dedicated in October of the same year.

In 1930 the first Sunday School teaching staff was organized. There were nine teachers. Charles Borchard was the Superintendent. Reverend Kellerman left for Miami, Florida in the fall of 1932. Reverend H. Gerike was called to this vacancy in February, 1933.

On June 26, 1938, our congregation celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.

Reverend H. Gerike stayed with this church until December, 1941, and Reverend F. Benecke came in January, 1942. During his pastorate, the church was decorated and the new pews and pulpit were purchased. In 1943, a call to Parker, South Dakota, was accepted by Reverend F. Benecke. He was succeeded by the Reverend H. H. Kuehn, who came in July of 1943 from Centerville, South Dakota.

The Ladies' Aid purchased war bonds and donated money and food to the canteen in Aberdeen.

The church grounds were landscaped in 1945. In 1946, the Ladies' Aid sewed for European relief. European families have been adopted. Care packages, food and clothing, have been sent. The project for 1947 was the plastering of the basement walls and building the serving counter. The church was re-wired for REA in 1948, so in 1949 two electric stoves were bought for the kitchen, and cupboards and tables were built.

Reverend and Mrs. H. Luebke returned in 1949 to make their home in the community, and the congregation celebrated with them on their golden wedding anniversary, in July.

On March 22, 1949, the old parsonage was sold at auction to H. H. Boekelheide, who moved it to Aberdeen making it into a five-apartment dwelling. The same summer a new parsonage was erected by the congregation at a cost of more than $20,000.00. Dedication Sunday and open house were held the thirteenth of November.

In the spring of 1950, the Ladies' Aid decorated the basement walls, bought dishes and silverware.

On October 1st, the congregation honored a former pastor and his wife, the Reverend and Mrs. C. F. Kellerman of Miami, Florida, with a reception and dinner in the church parlors.

Each year the Ladies' Aid has a bazaar, and sells refreshments to raise money for their different projects.

EBENEZER KRIMMER MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH,

Near Doland, South Dakota.

Reverend Jacob J. Hofer moved to a farm near Doland, South Dakota, November 1, 1919. On November 23, 1919, the first church services were held in what was known as the Irving Church, located two miles from the present church site. This was a community church and permission was granted to use the building without charge.

Seven families attended this first service, including Reverend Jacob J. Hofer, Jacob A. Hofer, John B. Wipf, John D. Waldner, and Mathias E. Kleinsasser.

Reverend John Tschetter of the Bethel Church near Yale was the first visitor to this new group. He spent the Christmas holidays in the community and preached several inspiring sermons. Reverend Peter Nickel, Oklahoma, was the first evangelist who came to visit these families.

Joining this pioneer assembly was Reverend Mathias E. Kleinsasser, who had come from Freeman, and settled in the community, thirteen years earlier (1907). He was a lay minister of the Mennonite Brethren Church.

The following March, in 1920, several other families from Freeman, including Joe D. Gross and Joseph Wurz moved into the community and attended the services led by Elder Hofer. It was found necessary to organize.

The first business meeting was held March 14, 1920. The following were elected: Joseph Wurz, Sr., Deacon; John D. Waldner, Secretary.

God blessed these people spiritually and received the praise of their grateful hearts. Recognizing that God had been their faithful help, the name Ebenezer was selected upon the suggestion of Joseph Wurz, Sr., who said at this early church meeting, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us". (1 Samuel 7:12).

The first revival meetings were held by this newly organized group, with Rev. D. J. S. Mendel and Rev. Samuel J. R. Hofer as speakers in December, 1920. In February, of 1921, Rev. F. V. Wiebe conducted revival services when the Lord gave repentance and a goodly group found peace in Christ.

On October 8, 1922, church building was bought for $1,000.00. This church was known as the Kleinsasser Church, having been built and used by John Z. Kleinsasser, at Bethel. The building was moved from the Joseph B. Walter farm to its present location on two acres of land donated by Brother John B. Wipf. After the necessary remodeling and repair, it was dedicated on June 17, 1922.

In the fall of 1929, the Ebenezer church was supplied with a resident minister when the Lord led the Reverend Jacob P. Glanzer family into the community. Rev. Glanzer served as minister until they moved to California in 1933.

In the spring of 1935, Rev. D. J. S. Mendel answered the call of the church and the Lord to serve the Ebenezer congregation, coming from the Emmanuel Church at Onida. Rev. Mendel served as leader and minister for eleven years, until 1946.

Elizabeth Hofer answered the Lord's call to be a missionary. In October, 1935, she went to North China for a term of six years. Her second term, 1947-48, was short due to communism in China. Since 1949 she has served under the K. M. B. Conference in Arkansas.

Arden Wipf, missionary to Africa, received his early Christian training in Ebenezer Church, but later located in Huron in 1956. During his first term of service he took seriously ill, and went to be with the Lord. He lies buried in Africa.

From the fall of 1946 until 1950, Rev. Paul H. Glanzer served the congregation as pastor. It was during his ministry that the church building was enlarged and several improvements made. In 1946 the congregation purchased a parsonage in Doland and the Glanzer family were its first residents.

Rev. Franklin Wiebe began his ministry to this congregation in the fall of 1950, and served until May 5, 1954. He was ordained a minister on February 18, 1951.

In 1953, the Ebenzer Church was host to the 74th Convention of the K. M. B. Conference.

On September 1, 1954, Brother Menno Pullman came to serve as pastor and ministered until September 1, 1957, when Rev. C. F. Plett answered the church call. Although Brother Pullman farmed and preached, his ministry was appreciated by the congregation.

As a rural church, the Ebenezer congregation has not had a rapid growth, but it has matured steadily in its various phases through the blessing of the Lord.

CRANDON SETTLEMENT METHODIST CHURCH.

The beginning of the German Methodist Church, known as Crandon Settlement in Spink County, dates back to the year 1880. The original name of this missionfield was "Redfield and Aberdeen Mission", and Crandon belonged to it. Aberdeen soon was discontinued. In 1880, Jacob Keller, a local preacher, who had conducted services here, was the first German Methodist minister appointed to this mission. Up to 1884, Redfield and Crandon were one charge, hence their early history is very closely interwoven.

During the years 1882 to 1884, a great number of German Methodist families from other states moved to Crandon and vicinity. Soon organized classes and Sunday Schools were founded, not only in Crandon, but six miles southeast in Crandon Settlement as well, and another group at the James River, still another at Turtle Creek. Later, regular preaching services were held in Tulare in the home of Rev. Brandenburg and in Buffalo Township.

The Turtle Creek class, later called Cottonwood Lake church, was then transferred to Rockham. The three smaller groups had to be dropped and the James River class joined with Crandon Settlement. For a number of years, up to 1890, the Crandon Church was apparently very prosperous, but then came sad reverses; crop failures brought discouragements, and caused the majority of families to move away. Records indicate that nearly fifty German Methodist families then left the Dakotas.

The first persons who became members here were the minister's family, Mrs. Keller, and their daughter Anna, and also Karl T. Buchholz and Mrs. Marie Rakow with her husband Karl F. Rakow, a local preacher, who for many years in the absence of the pastor, would lead the service in the schoolhouse in Crandon Settlement. Church records reveal the following names of families who were members here: Frederich Becker, and Carl Becker, the Brugger, Blume, and the Buchholz families, the Freitags, Frankensteins, Foglesongs, and Gatzkes, then later, Kluckhohn, Kopplin, Kreimann, Liermann, Lipps, August and Fred Marzahn, Meissner, Emil Meyer, Beckley, Fred, August and Gottlieb Peter, Petersmeyer, Rehnke, Richard, Steinheuser, Watzek, Werth, C. C. Wieting, Karl Wieting and many others worthy of mention. The memory of these faithful families shall always be an inspiration to us to "Carry on" and to be at our best. Those who are still among us of their descendants are a real asset to the Crandon Settlement Church.

The first District Meeting was held on the Crandon Mission in Spink County, on May 24-26, 1883. This was intended to be a training school for the preachers of the district.

The first German Methodist district camp meeting was held seven miles northeast of Redfield, July 24-26, 1884, and with but one exception has been held near Redfield every year until 1947, when it was discontinued and the resources of its sale transferred to Lake Poinsett Methodist camp.

Crandon Settlement soon became the strongest German Methodist Church in South Dakota. The ablest ministers available served here as pastors. Great spiritual and revival movements have from time to time stirred the entire community. In the more prosperous days of the past, Crandon Settlement church was very liberal in giving for all purposes. In 1918, as records show, they gave for Liberty Bonds and for church work to the amount of $39,648.00.

In 1893, during the pastorate of Andrew Immer, the church was built in Crandon Settlement. Up to that time, they had worshipped in schoolhouses. Later, in 1902, a parsonage was built near the church, and after a few more years, the church building was enlarged and improved. For the first time in South Dakota history, the German Conference convened here in September, 1904, and then again in 1914.

On November 19, 1893, this church was dedicated to the service of God, this service being conducted by Rev. Rolfing. The time set for the service was 9:30. Long before that time, horses with buggies or wagons could be seen wending their way to the NEW church! There at the service Rev. Kaste, the Presiding Elder, presented a plea for substantial subscriptions to cover the remaining debt, (not a small amount), and in a short time, the debt was completely covered and the church was dedicated free of debt.

In 1914 under the pastorate of P. J. Hoffman, the interior of the church was re-decorated and the picture, "The Gates Ajar" was painted behind the pulpit.

In 1924, the membership of the church reached its peak with a roll of 165.

In 1933 the merger with the Dakota Conference of the English Methodist church took place. This was a difficult adjustment for some of our older members, as they had received their religious training in the German language. However, they realized that the strength of the church rested on the young people who were being trained in the English language.

In October, 1946, the church board began to think seriously of building a church basement, to take care of the growing Sunday School, and for church social needs, but these plans didn't materialize until May, of 1949, when Reverend Harvey Sander was again the pastor, for he had returned to the church in June of 1947, a graduate of Iliff Theological Seminary of Colorado.

Reverend W. F. Belling, former pastor of our church returned in the fall of 1951 to preach in our evangelistic program, a plan of the Advance for Christ in Methodism.

The Crandon Settlement church was re-dedicated November 2, 1952, by Bishop Edwin E. Voigt.

Pastors serving Crandon Settlement are: Jacob Keller, 1880-1881; G. E. Kienle, 1881-1883; W. F. Rolfing, 1883-1886; L. J. Brenner, 1886-1888; Philip Wacker, 1888-1891; Andrew Immer, 1891-1895; A. F. Hilmer, 1895-1898; F. H. Thiel, 1898-1902; A. F. Damerow, 1902-1907; H. E. Hilmer, 1907-1913; F. J. Hoffmann, 1913- 1914; F. C. Steffler, 1914-1917; W. H. Klaus, 1917-1921; W. F. Belling, 1921-1923; C. E. Schoenleber, 1923-1925; H. E. Hillmer, 1925-1928; H. J. Loemker, 1928-1932; Clarence Matthews, 1932-1933; A. G. Campbell, 1933-1936; C. L. Starr, 1936-1937; P. E. Kreimann, 1937-1938; C. C. Boslaugh, 1938-1941; Marie Heinemann, 1941-1943; Harvey Sander, 1943-1944; Rev. C. D. Arms, 1944-1947; Harvey Sander, 1947-1952; James Torbert, 1952-1957; J. S. Ward, Jr., 1957-1959; John H. Steele, 1959-.

CONDE METHODIST CHURCH

When the first homesteaders settled in northeast Spink County in 1883, one of the first of their concerns was a place for religious worship. A small group with religious background contacted a lay preacher by the name of John J. Bloomhall, a homesteader near Ashton, South Dakota, and with him began regular religious services in a sod house five miles west of the present city of Conde. The first schoolhouse was built in Beotia Township in 1884, and they then held their services until 1886, when the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad extended its line north and the town of Conde was platted. For a time services were held in the depot and later in the town schoolhouse.

In 1883, the Methodist Episcopal Church Conference appointed the first resident pastor, the Reverend George F. Bieber, and they organized under the jurisdiction of the M. E. Church and a parsonage was built. In 1897, a church was built at a cost of $1,200.00 and dedicated December

5, 1897, free of debt.

During the years the church has been enlarged, a basement built and other improvements made to the church property.

In 1950, a major improvement and remodeling of the church was undertaken and at a cost of over $12,000.00, is adequate for many years. The present membership is over two hundred and growing. The church serves as the only Protestant church in a large area.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, DOLAND

Coming to Doland in the fall of 1881 or 1882, the Methodist Christian found his only opportunity to engage in worship with his fellows presented itself through the preaching of a homestead-preacher by the name of Mr. Clark who lived on his homestead two miles northeast of Doland. Such services as Mr. Clark held were conducted in the North Western Railway Station, but these were intermittent and unsatisfactory. From this strange point of assembly, the congregation wandered, for a meeting place, to the Sherman House where services were conductd by a man named Mr. Fowler. His generous hospitality was supplemented by the faithful devotion of his wife, who became superintendent of the first Sunday School conducted in the interests of this pioneer congregation.

A store building owned by a Mr. Higgenbotham sheltered the growing Methodist flock for a time. Another place of assembly in the early days was a room over the old butcher shop.

Meanwhile, the homesteader-minister was succeeded by a "full time" minister by the name of Reverend Kemper, who supplied the Doland people from his main charge at Clark. The flimsy, loose-jointed organization with which the movement started, was giving way to a more efficient organization with which the names of Ben Warner, T. D. Henry, and Sam Ardell became identified. The movement toward building a church was launched in 1883. The completed structure was used for worship of the church, during the year 1884. The same year a parsonage was erected on the lot to the west of the church. A revival, which occurred during the brief pastorate of Reverend Jones, in 1885-6, resulted in the addition of membership to the church of outstanding men of the town.

A new and large parsonage was built in 1911, on the north side of the church. Reverend L. L. Lane was the first pastor to live in this home. Under the direction of Rev. E. E. Vernon in 1922, the present church building was constructed. This is a building of modern design of brick and tile with a seating capacity of 200, several Sunday School rooms, and a well equipped basement.

In the early years, organizations working in the church were known as the Ladies'Aid, Auxiliary of Foreign Missionary, Men's Fellowship Club, and the Epworth League. Today these organizations are known as the Women's Society of Christian Service, Methodist Men, and the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Dr. H. W. Sherwood, who came to Doland in 1902, was superintendent of the Sunday School for more than thirty-five years. Miss Edna Holmes was Sunday School teacher for the beginners for over thirty years.

Record of pastors: F. S. Fowler, Oct. 1884- Oct. 1885; Rev. Jones, Oct. 1885,-Oct. 1886; F. S. Fowler, Oct. 1886-Oct. 1888; W. H. Cory, Oct. 1888-Oct. 1890; W. H. Irwin, Oct. 1890- Oct. 1891; G. W. Hickman, Oct. 1891-Oct. 1895; F. Baker, Oct. 1895- Oct. 1896; W. R. Cook, Oct. 1896-Oct. 1898; Amos Emmitt, Oct. 1898- Oct. 1899; R. H. Dempsey, Jan. 1900-Oct. 1901; J. E. Norvell, Oct. 1901-Oct. 1903; Frank Cox, Oct. 1903-Oct. 1904; L. L. Lane, Oct. 1904-Oct. 1912; L. W. Darling, Oct. 1912-Oct. 1915; R. C. Shearer, Oct. 1915- Oct. 1917; Fred H. Ray, Oct. 1917- Oct. 1920; E. E. Vernon, Oct. 1920-Oct. 1924; Albert Hartt, Oct. 1924-Oct. 1930; J. E. Wilkinson, Oct. 1930- Oct. 1939; V. W. Selix, Oct. 1939-Oct. 1942; Anton Lowe, Oct. 1942 (for a short time); Arnold Campbell, October, 1943; C. C. Boslough, Oct. 1943 to Oct. 1944; V. W. Selix, Oct. 1944-June, 1945; E. H. Jarmann, August 1945,-June 1948; Thomas Griffith, July, 1948-June, 1952; Robert Gerfer, June, 1952-June 1953; Robert Plastow, Sept. 1953-Sept. 1955; Donald B. Hansen, Sept. 1955-June 1956; Richard O. Moberly, June, 1956-Sept. 1959; C. Emery Anderson, Oct. 1959-Present pastor at Doland, South Dakota.

HITCHCOCK METHODIST CHURCH

In August, 1882, Reverend O. S. Basford, located at Redfield, organized the church with twenty-seven members. Two churches were built while he was pastor, one at Hitchcock in 1883 and one at Crandon. These were valued at $4,500.00. Broadland was taken from the Wessington work and Tulare church was established. These four towns constituted the Hitchcock circuit. (Hitchcock was first known as Clarkville, Dakota Territory. The name was later changed to Altoona, and in 1888 changed to Hitchcock.)

The first services were held in the Chicago & Northwestern depot, and later in a butcher shop owned by Mike O'Brien and still later in the Workman Hall above the store now known as the Phillips Store.

The church built in 1883, seated about fifty people. Among the original members were: Mr. and Mrs. Reader Fuller, James and A. H. Alkire, Thomas Bentley, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Fuller and three children, Mr. Leonard Gee, and his wife Lucinda Gee, A. H. Wintermite, C. W. Witmar, Sr. Leander Wilbur, Herman Yager, Elizabeth Yager, Daniel J. Briggs, Alverson W. Page, and Mrs. Page. Most of these joined by letter.

In October, 1882, W. H. Ware was appointed pastor and served until May, 1883, when he left because of ill health. O. S. Basford completed the year.

J. S. Akers served the church during 1884-1885 at which time a parsonage was built which was used until 1905, when it was sold.

James Alkire, one of the original members, held meetings on alternate Sundays at 6 p.m. in winter and 7 p.m. in the summer.

S. Brokaw was a local preacher made pastor in 1883. He was paid $200.00. Leonard Gee, another original member, held services at twelve o'clock noon.

The first recorded baptism was Jarda Elvira Blomquist, infant daughter of John and Ellen Blomquist, on April 2, 1884, at the home of the parents with S. P. Brokaw officiating. Mrs. Cora Cramer was the first person baptized in the church on October 14, 1885, at which time William H. Headley was the pastor. Baptisms were by "sprinkling, pouring, or immersion". Places for baptism by immersion were Turtle Creek, Artesian Lake, at Altoona, and Lake Byron.

The first recorded marriage on April 21, 1884, was Thomas Todnem and Anna C. Hendrickson, both from Spink County, with Reverend Brokaw officiating. William Owen Gee and Sara Kingdon, both from Hitchcock, were married February 18, 1886, with William H. Hoadley officiating.

While L. W. Miller served the charge in 1887, and 1888, the parsonage, valued at $700.00, was finished. The minister's salary was also $700 including house rent. During this time, sixty-two people were baptized by him. Seventy-four were baptized by E. S. Chappell during the three years, 1890-1893.

A. W. Thurston served the charge from 1895-1897. He officiated at the marriage of County Superintendent of Schools, O. P. Meyers and Lena McFarlane and Herman Hilkemeier and Hannah Olson in 1897.

Reverend Dawson Barker who came in 1898 died in the second year of his service. He was followed by E. E. Dean, who served during the year 1897-98, and was succeeded by E. E. Saxton.

Reverend O. A. Phillips was an elderly man wearing a long white beard when he came to Hitchcock in 1902. The new Hitchcock parsonage and the Broadland Church were built during his pastorate, with the parsonage valued at $2,000.00. After the Hitchcock service in winter, he would eat a hasty lunch such as a bowl of oatmeal, which he kept hot on the back of the hard coal burner, then hitch his horse to the cutter, wrap up in a fur robe and drive the ten miles to Broadland in all kinds of weather, and over all kinds of roads. The Hitchcock people presented him with a fur-lined coat and mittens which were much appreciated on these long cold rides.

C. C. Boslough, served the charge from 1905-1908, at a salary of $500.00. He received an increase of $100.00 the second year. For one marriage ceremony which he performed, the groom gave him two sacks of oats.

John Clayton, another English minister, served from 1908 - 1911. In addition to preaching at Hitchcock and Broadland, he held services at the Payne Schoolhouse in the afternoon.

S. F. Spitz served during the dry year of 1911 when automobiles were coming into common use. His slow horse was terribly frightened of them and would out-distance one if it came up behind him.

John D. Evans served five months, October, 1912 to February, 1913. W. H. Ringler, (1913-1914), received a salary of $900.00.

Samuel Marble (1914-1916), a young, single minister, was very popular with the young people. He was married while at Hitchcock. He became one of the outstanding ministers of the Methodist Church serving pastorates in cities such as New York, and Denver, Colorado.

A. E. Hocking served during 1916-1918. He was the first minister in Hitchcock to have an automobile, a red, high-wheeled International, which was very good for those times, as many roads were just two ruts across the prairie.

E. O. Machamer came in October, 1918.

Rev. Trevithick succeeded him serving the charge for two years (1920-1922) Rev. Edwards served for the year 1922-1923. Frank Tanner spent five years as pastor of this church, (1923-1928), during which time a number of improvements were made in the church.

Rev. Anthony Wilson served three years (1928-1931), and Rev. Lockner one year (1931-1932).

Walter Van served the charge from 1932-1934. Their daughter, Amber Van, became a missionary.

The two pastors serving from 1934-1938, Rev. Boyer and Rev. R. E. Howe, lived in Tulare and served the Hitchcock church. These ministers were followed by F. W. Shreve, who lived at Broadland while serving the Hitchcock church. He officiated at the first marriage held in the church, the double wedding of two sisters, Lillian Decker to Gilbert Frankenstein and Delcinnie Decker to Elmer Lips, on June 2, 1940.

Paul Miller (1940-1947) found the church still owing a debt of $1,762.70 on the remodeling of 1925. One morning, during church services, he offered to contribute $100.00 toward payment of the debt if ten others would do the same. The contributions received totaled $1874.50, thus clearing the debt, and leaving a surplus of $111.80.

The salary paid to Reverend Miller was $700.00 for seven months.

Don Farries was the lay leader in 1948-1949.

Henry Hottman (1947-1949) was a teacher and student at Huron College.

J. P. Hauser (1949-1950) came from Mexico where he had been serving as missionary for many years.

Royal Marty (1950-1951), a student at Huron College, lived at Broadland for a time before moving to Hitchcock. He organized the M.Y.F.

John DeVries came to Hitchcock from Geddes in 1951 and left during his second year to go to Gregory. Oliver Brekke came from Tolstoy in 1953 as a supply and in 1953 he was appointed by Conference.

Reverend James Patten came to Hitchcock in 1957. Many improvements have been made since then, particularly the enlarging of the church and addition of facilities.

ALTOONA CEMETERY

The area included in the Altoona Cemetery was a part of the homestead of Leonard Gee. The first burial was for Cyrus J. Rodman, a young son of Mr. and Mrs. William Rodman, who died June 9, 1883. He was a nephew of Mr. Gee. There was no cemetery so Mr. Gee provided a plot on the hill in his wheat field where they mowed the wheat and made the grave.

The next spring, 1884, Mr. Gee donated several acres to be used as a cemetery. It was named Altoona Cemetery. Later that same year another nephew, Willie Martin, died. These were the first graves in the cemetery. It has been enlarged since that time.

LA DELLE METHODIST CHURCH

The history of a church does not necessarily begin with the erection and dedication of a church building. It goes back farther than that, and has its beginning in the hearts of the people in a community who have a desire for a place to gather and worship God in fellowship with one another.

When people migrate to a new land, they take with them the customs and traditions of the places they have left. Hardly are they established in the new home before they feel the need of some form of Sunday service.

Often among those seeking new homes were pastors who came from churches in the east. Such was the case in the community called Winthrop, in Beadle County.

Among the several pioneer ministers of this settlement was one outstanding man, the Reverend J. H. Moore, a retired Methodist pastor of a Chicago, Illinois church.

Early in 1883, a Union Sunday School was organized in the home of John Concklin. Thereafter, its sessions were held regularly in the homes of other settlers. Reverend J. H. Moore often preached to the assembled people.

It was probably through Dr. Moore's efforts that different community centers were organized under the Dakota Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, into Methodist Episcopal Classes. The whole group was called the "Lake Byron Charge".

The Winthrop class organized in the summer of 1883 had a membership of twenty-two people, namely;

W. F. Beceman
J. W. Davis
Hattie Davis
Caroline Davis
J. L. Davis
F. F. Kimball
Nellie Davis
J. E. Moore
Harriet Moore
J. H. Moyer
Mary Moyer
Elizabeth McNeil
Anna Moore
Thomas Nickell
A. N. Nickell
J. F. Nickell
Nancy E. Nickell
Lena Nickell
T. A. Nickell
Florence Price
F. C. Taylor
Daisy Taylor

The Winthrop charge, as it then became known, was reported regularly in the Minutes of the M. E. Conference with the exception of two or three times. The following is a list of ministers, who served.

Rev. W. H. Matson	December 1, 1886 - October 1, 1887
Rev. H. D. Smith	During 1889
Rev. E. S. Darling	October 1, 1889 - October 1, 1890
Rev. W. R. Jones	October 1, 1890 - April 1, 1892
Rev. P. S. Lent	May 1, 1892 - September, 1893
Rev. O. H. Spraul	September, 1893 - October, 1894
Rev. H. S. Coon	October, 1894 - October, 1895
Rev. G. D. Brown	October, 1895 - October, 1896
Rev. E. E. Dean	October, 1896 - October, 1897

Rev. C. B. Warren	January, 1898 - October, 1898
Rev. J. J. Ramsey	December, 1898 - October, 1899

From 1899 to 1901 there was no minister appointed to fill the pulpit. About this time, the name of the charge was changed from the Winthrop Charge to the Carpenter Charge. In 1901 the Winthrop Society decided to build a church.

On September 26, 1901, John and Mary Chrystal of LaDelle deeded to the Trustees of the M. E. Church of Winthrop the land on which the church now stands. This is located three and one-half miles north of the old Winthrop School in Spink County at LaDelle. On January 10, 1902 Articles of Incorporation were granted to the Trustees, namely, James Brock, Daniel York, Joseph Hoy and others, under the name of Franklin M. E. Church of LaDelle, Spink County, South Dakota. Franklin B. Styles was pastor during the incorporation and building of the church.

The church was dedicated in the summer of 1902. Rev. Dobson, District Superintendent, conducted the services. Rev. P. O. Bunt was the pastor. The building was free of debt and has remained so since.

A piece of land on the west side of the road, across from the church, was also deeded to be used by the church people for hitching the horses. The strip was abandoned with the coming of automobiles and the road changed by grading, and a piece of land south of the church was acquired for parking space.

In the year 1936, a change was made and the church functioned as a part of the Crandon Settlement Charge. In the fall of 1938, it was transferred to the Hitchcock Charge. Services were discontinued from 1947 to 1949. In May of that year, Rev. Donald Hansen began holding services again as a part of the Carpenter-LaDelle Woodland Charge. In 1955, Rev. Hansen was appointed to Doland and he continued to serve LaDelle as well. LaDelle is now a part of the Doland-LaDelle-Charge. Rev. C. Emory Anderson is the present pastor.

Pastors who have served the LaDelle Church since 1899 include: Rev. F. B. Styles, 1901-1902; Rev. P. O. Bunt, 1902-1903; Rev. Small, 1908; Rev. A. Johnson, 1912-1914; Rev. Lee, 1914-1916; Rev. Little; Rev. Bierly; Rev. Arnold; Rev. Ivan Prasser, 1922-1823; Rev. Rhonshousen, 1923-1925; Rev. Arass, 1925-1926; Rev. C. H. Rhodes, 1926-1927; Rev. Walton, 1927-1928; Rev. N. A. Luke, 1928-1933; Rev. C. Douglas, 1934-1936; Rev. C. H. Starr, 1936-1937; Rev. Philip Kriemann, 1937-1938; Rev. Warren Shrieve, 1938-1940; Rev. Paul S. Miller, 1940-1947; Rev. Donald E. Hansen, 1949-1956; Rev. Richard Moberly, 1956-1959; Rev. C. Emory Anderson, 1959-Present time.

METHODIST CHURCH, NORTHVILLE

This church was organized in 1883 with Mellette, by Reverend J. Cressey of Minnesota, who was in Northville visiting his daughter, Mrs. Dora Child. The first pastor was Reverend William Rogers, and the first service was held in the schoolhouse. In 1886 a church was built in Mellette and in 1888 one was built in Northville. The pastor had five charges: Mellette, Northville, Duxbury, Percival School (four and one-half miles south), and Prairieville School (five miles southwest of Northville). In

1898 a church was built in the southeast corner of the township. This was named Clearview.

Reverend T. E. Green was the first pastor. Church was discontinued in this building in 1914. The building was sold in the Twenties to the American Legion and was moved to Northville and converted into a hall.

In 1907 a church was built in the southwest corner of the township and named Prairieville. After twelve years, services were discontinued here, and in the Thirties the building was moved away. The Northville church was enlarged in 1909.

THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, REDFIELD

Early in the summer of 1880, the Reverend Mr. Rodgers, a local preacher who resided on the east side of the James River, nearly opposite the present town of Ashton, organized in Redfield the first Methodist Episcopal class. The class met in a little frame building known as the Welker House, which stood on the creek bank in the northeast part of town. Later it was moved to the corner of Sixth Avenue and First Street West. Mr. Rodgers met with the class several times.

In the spring or early summer of 1881, Reverend O. S. Basford, a member of the Vermont Conference, was transferred to the Iowa Conference, and was sent to the Redfield Circuit by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, to write the advantages which the northwest possessed for homemaking. The Redfield Circuit consisted of Redfield, Crandon, Hitchcock and a settlement four miles east of Broadland.

The State Charter for the Church was dated in November, 1881, and was signed by Geo. H. Hand, Secretary of the Territory of South Dakota. The Trustees of record in the charter were: Chas. Irwin, C. H. Myers, Dr. S. S. Bateman, and O. H. Clark. About the same time the Myers Brothers, C. H. and F. S., acquired from the Western Town Lot Company, a grant of the lots on the corner of Sixth Avenue and Second Street East for the new church organization.

The first church building was erected in 1883. It was dedicated on Conference Sunday in October, by Chaplain McCabe, later Bishop McCabe. This church was a frame structure, L-shaped, with a tower in the angle between the main part and the annex. It cost about $1700.00. For twenty years, this continued to be the home of the congregation.

Mr. Basford served as pastor for three years and was succeeded by the following pastors:

A. McClintock	from October, 1884 to October, 1885
J. S. Akers	from October, 1885 to October, 1886
James Rowe	from October, 1886 to October, 1889
A. R. Boggs	from October, 1889 to October, 1890
L. W. Miller	from October, 1890 to October, 1891
E. F. Brush	from October, 1891 to October, 1892
A. C. Stevens	from October, 1891 to October, 1896

During the pastorate of A. C. Stevens, the twelfth anniversary of the founding of the church was observed.

L. Bradford	from October, 1896 to October, 1897
W. B. Redburn	from October, 1897 to October, 1899
W. L. Meinzer	from October, 1899 to June, 1902
A. D. Thibodeau	from June, 1902 to October, 1905

In 1903 the frame building was sold and removed from the premises. A brick building consisting of an auditorium and two lecture rooms erected. This building cost in the neighborhood of $15,000.00

Mr. Thibodeau was succeeded by the following pastors:

F. T. Krueger	from October, 1905 to October, 1906
J. S. Harkness	from October, 1906 to July, 1910
M. E. Spahr	from July, 1910 to October, 1910
D. I. Roush	from October, 1910 to May, 1912
Supplied	from May, 1912 to October, 1912
Ernest Holgate	from Oct. 1912 until death April 22, 1915

In 1914 during the pastorate of Reverend Holgate, the basement was completed, at a cost of $3,100.00. As a memorial to Rev. Holgate, the church installed a pipe organ in 1916 at a cost of $3,000.00.

Albert Hartt	from June, 1915 to August, 1917
Arthur Halter	from October, 1917 to October, 1921

During Rev. Halter's pastorate, the German Methodist Church building was sold and most of its members transferred to this church.

Walter Torbet	from October, 1921 to October, 1924
W. S. Shepherd	from October, 1924 to October, 1930
R. C. Keagy	from October, 1930 to October, 1934
R. G. Minkler	from October, 1934 to October, 1940
Earl F. Kurtz	from October, 1940 to October, 1947
Harry C. Ernst	from January, 1948 to January, 1954
Earl E. Lewis	from January, 1954 to May, 1958
G. K. Van Tassel	from June, 1958 to present time.

METHODIST CHURCH, TULARE

The very early history of the Tulare Methodist Church is not very well known. Religious services were held in a schoolhouse on the south side of Tulare, beginning about 1884. Most of the ministerial leadership in those early days was supply pastors who were circuit riders. Dakota was a Mission Conference and work at Tulare at that time must have been reported at Annual Conferences along with other work so that no record remains of the individual work at Tulare.

Some of the ministers who included Tulare in their circuit were Reverend Harrison, about 1884, and Reverend Miller about 1886, a Reverend Opil about 1889, a Reverend Chappel about 1892, a Reverend Dean and a Reverend Saxton. No doubt there were others also, whose names we have not found.

The first Methodist Church building was built in July and August, 1903. C. N. Boyd was the carpenter. He was assisted by J. Ina Boyd and Emmanuel Hermann.

In the fall of 1903, the Tulare Methodist Church records appear in the Dakota Conference Minutes for the first time. O. A. Phillips was the pastor. Annual Conference was held at Aberdeen, South Dakota, October 14-18, 1903. Bishop John M. Walden was the presiding Bishop. J. O. Dobson was presiding Elder for the Dirstrict in which Tulare was located. In the District Superintendent's report appears the following statement: "Tulare has a new $2,500.00 church ready for dedication". The church was dedicated in January, 1904. The following statistical report was turned in for Tulare that first time: full members, 37; local preachers, 1; Number of churches, 2; Debts, $415.00; Number of Sunday Schools, 2; Officers and teachers, 16; enrollment, 105; average attendance, 75; pastor's salary, $150.00; for presiding elder, $20.00; for the Bishop, $5.00; conference claiments, $5.00; expense for Sunday School, $60.00. It is apparent from the above statistics that another church was with Tulare, comprising a pastoral charge. This church was a schoolhouse west of Tulare in which Sunday School and Church services were held for a while.

In 1904, the Annual Conference met in Mitchell, October 12-17. Bishop John Hamilton was in charge. The Reverend Hager was the District Superintendent and O. A. Phillips continued as the pastor at Hitchcock and Tulare. The following statement appears in the District Superintendent's report: "O. A. Phillips had a great year at Hitchcock and Tulare, building two churches and one parsonage and paying in full for all."

The Tulare church was on its way with the following ministers in charge: 1906-1907, Ralph Shearer; 1907, C. D. Bullock, 1907-1910, J. L. Walsh; 1910-1911, J. W. Ellis; 1911-1914, J. D. Stevens; 1914-1916, W. M. Allen; 1916-1918, C. C. Hanson; 1918-1919, H. O. Blackburn; 1919-1922, C. B. Cooney; 1922-1923, J. H. Dirks; 1923-1924, W. J. Douglas; 1924-1927, S. G. Gillette; 1927-1930, Curtis Reedy; 1930-1934, Walter Van; 1934-1936, A. J. Hoyer; 1936, To be supplied; 1936-1937, R. L. Rowe.

The Reverend Rowe was followed by C. C. Boslaugh. Then the church was supplied by Clyde McCone and others. 1943-1944 Harvey Sander supplied from Dakota Wesleyan. From 1944 to 1947, C. D. Arms was the pastor in charge. From 1947 to 1952 Harvey Sander was the pastor in charge; James Torbert, 1952-1957; J. S. Ward, Jr., 1957-1959; John H. Steele, 1959 to the present time.

An extensive building and remodeling program was undertaken in 1950. A 24' x 24' addition to the church was built. The approximate cost of the extensive building and remodeling program was $10,000.00. About $15,000.00 of labor was donated by members and constituency of the church.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH, REDFIELD

In the years of 1880 and 1881 a group of people came to Dakota Territory and settled in Spink County near Northville and Mellette. Some came from Michigan and some from Illinois. When coming to their claims they drove overland, some from Huron and some from Watertown. They lived in tents and later built sod houses.

At one time during the Indian Scare they took their families, guns and prized possessions and gathered at the T. J. Thompson farm for safety and protection.

In their former homes these people had been interested in the

Wesleyan Methodist Church and wanted a church here.

On the 3rd of July, 1881 they met at the farm home of T. J. Thompson north of Northville and organized a Sunday School. In November, these same families met at the Colson home east of Northville for a preaching service. The Reverend Robert Hardie, a missionary from the Minnesota Wesleyan Methodist Conference, held the service and the following Sunday they met again and organized the church.

There were nineteen charter members and a number of probationers including the families Kingsley, Thompson, Edgar, Hudson, Crosby, Gould, and Colson. Some time later, because of the distance some lived from Northville, the Charter members by mutual consent divided and services were started in Mellette.

Reverend Robert Hardie and family located on land just south of Mellette, and lived there until Mrs. Hardie's tragic death in the fall of 1901. As she was returning home after attending a prayer meeting at Northville, her team ran away and she was dragged to her death.

In the fall of 1882, the Wesleyan Methodist Church was built in Northville, at a cost of $1200.00, and was dedicated that same fall by the Reverend D. S. Kinney, Connectional Agent. At this time, the first Wesleyan Methodist Conference of the Dakotas was held.

The church was remodeled in 1905. The original building was cut in two and one part moved twenty feet. A new connection made an addition on one side for a choir-room and on the opposite side a class or prayer room was added, and also a belfry and entrance. The building was completed and furnished at a cost of $3,200.00.

The new building was dedicated by Reverend C. K. Thompson, pastor assisted by Reverend Norvell of the M. E. Church and Rev. Hardie, Conference President, in which capacity he served for a number of years. The sermon was given by Reverend A. W. Hall of Syracuse, New York, Connectional Agent.

The early ministers are recorded as follows:

Rev. W. P. Martin
Rev. M. R. Baldridge
Rev. Calhoon
Rev. Edwin Martin
Rev. A. W. Curry
Rev. C. K. Thompson
Rev. F. J. Wilson
Rev. O. W. Cooper
Rev. E. B. Leisenring
Rev. J. C. McGovern (father of our present Food-for-Peace Director, George McGovern.)
Rev. W. J. Edgar (one of the pioneer members.)
Rev. J. F. Simpson (who served as Conference President for many years.)
Rev. George Calhoon
Rev. H. H. Turner
Rev. J. Miller
Rev. Ralph Howard
Rev. Eugene Stanislaus
Rev. M. Vreugdenhil
Rev. R. J. Eling
Rev. P. J. Traver
Rev. B. D. Veeder
Rev. Ralph Frazier
Rev. Walter Cook
Rev. Paul Cedar
Rev. J. F. Gugin
Rev. J. E. Spry
Rev. Lester Meyer
Rev. Dallas Wadsworth
Rev. Mrs. Vreugdenhil
Rev. L. D. Harris (who is now in Missionary work in the Philippine Islands.)

At the present time Rev. H. Vreugdenhil, who is serving at the Wesleyan Methodist Church at Brentford, is also ministering to the Northville church.

There have always been services held in the church throughout the years and many people have worshipped there.

The original members have died and most of their children. There are a number of their grandchildren living, but they are widely scattered. Several missionaries have gone from this church to foreign lands. They grew up in this church and have gone to India, Africa, Haiti, South America. There are also a number of ministers who grew up here.

The church building has had little damage from storms over the years.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH, BRENTFORD

The Brentford Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized April 21, 1927, with about twenty-five members.

Reverend H. H. Turner was the first pastor. A schoolhouse served as a church for some years.

In 1948 the present church was moved into Brentford and made ready for use.

The following pastors have served this church: Rev. H. H. Turner; Rev. C. Harris; Rev. F. Trevor; Rev. J. E. Spry; Rev. J. Miller; Rev. Grace Miller; Rev. Meyers; Rev. B. Veeder; Rev. R. Howard; Rev. G. Klasna; Rev. H. Vreugdenhil (the present pastor).

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH, REDFIELD.

Wesleyan Methodism in these parts had its start in the little town of Crandon, South Dakota. Reverend L. D. Harris, Conference Missionary Evangelist, visited the community at the invitation of a Mr. and Mrs. Coleson early in January, 1917. At this time, plans were laid for a revival meeting that same month. Favorable results prompted the organization of a Wesleyan Methodist Church with Rev. Harris as the pastor in February, 1917. The Methodist people kindly loaned their church building for the services. In 1918 Rev. Harris was assigned other work and a Reverend Cummins was named as his successor. He was followed by Rev. Jarman who cared for the work until October, 1922.

Meanwhile a number of families in Redfield were holding cottage prayer meetings in their homes and occassionally attending the Crandon Wesleyan Church. A number joined the church at Crandon. In 1922 the first public Wesleyan Methodist service was held in Redfield. Reverend J. F. Simpson, then the conference president, conducted a tent meeting on a lot on Main Street in August of that year. This led to a circuit arrangement with Crandon. Their pastor would give the Sunday evening service to Redfield. W. O. Strang pastored the church during this period. Reverend J. F. Cugin who came in 1924 was the first pastor to make his residence in Redfield, doing so, in order to have the advantages of high school for his children. On March 17, 1929, Reverend Rufus Reisdorph, then the conference president, organized the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Redfield. Rev. Reisdorph is now General Superintendent of the denomination. Mrs. George Sturdevant was the first Sunday School Superintendent.

In 1931, Reverend F. O. Hunt came from the east and assumed the pastorate of the two churches. In the fall of 1932, the church building was moved to Redfield, on the site of the present church. Prior to this, services were held in a hall in the Syndicate Block. Also during Rev. Hunt's pastorate, a parsonage was purchased on West 6th. Reverend Hunt resigned in 1937 to take a church in Oregon. After his resignation, the conference President appointed Reverend S. J. McIntyre as supply pastor, and his first service was given on January 9, 1938. At the conference in the following June he was appointed pastor and moved with his family to Redfield.

Rev. McIntyre resigned in 1945 and was succeeded by Rev. H. W. Cretsinger, under whose leadership the church built a new parsonage which was completed in 1947. In April of 1950, the old church building was dismantled and a new one begun. It was dedicated in October 5, 1952.

Rev. Richard Sprowl, now an Air Force Chaplain, followed Reverend Cretsinger, in the role of pastor and he in turn was succeeded by Rev. W. J. Leyh. The present pastor, Reverend W. G. McIntyre, began his work as pastor here in July of 1960. He is a son of the previous pastor, S. J. McIntyre.

It is interesting to note that the first pastor, Reverend L. D. Harris, is still living and, at present, is a missionary in the Philippine Islands, although well past the age of retirement.

Four of the charter members of the church still are members of the local group; they are W. O. Strang, living in Marionette, Wisconsin, and Mrs. Glenn Taylor, Mrs. Cora Gerriets, and Mrs. Russel McCarty, all of this city.

GERMAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The German Methodist Episcopal Church originally belonged to the Redfield Aberdeen Mission, including Crandon and the neighboring vicinities, which was under the leadership of Jacob Keller, a local preacher who took charge of this large Mission October 2, 1880. Aberdeen was discontinued, and Redfield and Crandon were served by one pastor and in 1882 the Northwest German M. E. Conference organized the Redfield District under the leadership of Rev. E. E. Schuette, which later was the South Dakota District.

The Mission increased in membership and in 1884 Redfield and Crandon were separated. The first members in Redfield were: Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Bruell, Mrs. Maria Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Nicolaus Balsinger, and Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Klein—a larger congregation in Clifton, Harmony Township, including the Bastian, Barz, Bindenagel, and Siebrecht families, and in 1885 a congregation in the Kaiser, Vollmer neighborhood, east of Mellette. Sunday Schools were organized in all of these groups. Later on. Junior League, Epworth League, and the women's Foreign Missionary Society were organized in Redfield.

The parsonage at 612 First Street West was built in 1887, during the pastorate of Reverend W. H. Rolfing, and the church on the northwest corner of Seventh Avenue and First Street East in 1896 during the pastorate of Reverend E. H. Horney. Prior to this, the meetings were held in a schoolhouse and then in a hall located on the southeast corner of Sixth Avenue and First Street East.

Sixty-two annual camp meetings were held in the Redfield vicinity, first near Fisher's Grove, then Chris. Hagman's grove, and later in Beulah Park, the last one on July 2-7, 1946.

The congregation was discontinued in 1919 during World War I, when the German language was prohibited, members joining the Methodist Church, some Lutheran, and some Congregational.

Names of Pastors:Jacob Keller, 1880-1881; G. E. Keinle, 1881-1883; W. H. Rolfing, 1883-1884; L. J. Brenner, 1884-1886; W. H. Rolfing, 1886-1888; J. F. Martke, 1888-1892; E. F. Steffler, 1892-1895; E. H. Horney, 1895-1897; H. J. Loemker, 1897-1900; W. H. Klaus, 1900-1904; W. F. Belling, 1904-1909; G. E. Claussen, 1909-1912; W. H. Klaus 1912-1917; J. F. Hoffman, 1917-1918; H. E. Hilmer, 1918-1919.

SPINK COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The Spink County Sunday School Association was started in 1881. Earliest records are minutes of the ninth convention held in the Congregational Church in Ashton, on June 24 and 25, 1890, for the two days, with the thermometer registering 96 degrees in the shade. That evening it rained hard.

Topics discussed were: "Our Young People"; "Temperance Teaching"; "What shall a Child do on Sunday?" "The Sunday School as a factor in the Preservation of our Nation."

Athol Congregational Church hosted the county convention June 30, and July 1, 1891. They had printed programs. The following June, 1892, Mellette had the convention with 102 delegates, not including those from Mellette.

Names and addresses of officers and speakers of those early years included: Reverend C. H. Dreisbach, R. B. Hassell, Reverend D. R. Tomlin, Mrs. R. C. Booth (Athol), Mrs. Waterman (Frankfort), Elias McCauley, Reverend W. H. Thrall, George Boyer (Ashton), J. E. Robinson, Mrs. E. L. Potter (Mellette), Mrs. Ida Weld, (Northville), Mrs. D. Robertson (Conde), M. O. Bullock, Reverend L. J. Brown (Frankfort), Reverend A. D. Smith, C. Hagmann, Mrs. O. S. McAllister.

Reports showed that many Sunday Schools belonged to the Association besides the ones in Spink County towns. They were: Tetonka, Rose, Bethel, Clifton, Prairieville, Perryville, Clearview, LaPrairie and S. Rondell. Fifteen hundred members were enrolled. The Treasurer's report showed $12.90, $11.36, $12.76, each year.

Some of the resolutions were made: To have the American Flag in each Sunday School; Every Christian must be a declared enemy of the Saloon.

Mrs. Roy Wilhelm of Redfield, South Dakota, has all of the records from the year 1890. The last meeting was in 1947. Mrs. Wilhelm was the last Secretary.

CEMETERIES.

Baldwin Cemetery. A private cemetery in Tetonka Township three miles south of Brentford. Named for Benjamin Baldwin who in 1884 donated one-half acre for a cemetery. Members of the Baldwin and Vollmer families are buried there.

Bethany Lutheran Cemetery. In Section 11, in Mellette Township. In 1902 Reier C. Halvorson and T. O. Kettlesland each deeded five acres of land to the Bethany Lutheran Church for a cemetery. Named for the Church adjoining it.

Calvary Cemetery. In Section 35, in Mellette Township. Platted March 23, 1917 by Fred Fishback, S. Morgan, and S. A. Spratt, members of All Saints Catholic Church of Mellette. Bodies were moved to this place from an older Catholic Cemetery eight miles farther north because residents wanted their cemetery nearer to town.

Capitola Township Cemetery. In Capitola Township one half mile south of Roe Church. Established in 1882 by William Roe and William Else. Named for Capitola Else, the first white woman in the township. She is buried in this cemetery.

Clifton Township Cemetery. In Section 29, in Clifton Township ten miles east of Ashton. Platted on October 22, 1883, by F. A. Fasset, E. N. Graves, and D. W. Chadwick. Named for the township.

Colsman Cemetery. In Section 33, in Mellette township. In the winter of 1882, because of deep snow, medical aid could not be obtained from Northville, by Mr. Colsman for his children all suffering from black diphtheria. As a result, five of the children ranging in age from five to eighteen years, died. The roads being impassable, Mr. Colsman was forced to bury his children on his own land. In 1885 his baby died and was buried beside the other children.

Cottonwood Lake Cemetery. In Section 32, in Exline Township, across the road from Cottonwood Lake, to the north. Established in 1882 on an old Indian camping ground by people of the Lake region and named for it. A story is told of three pioneers who claimed they had excavated a petrified Indian body. Much curiosity was aroused, so a room was rented by them in Redfield and the body was put on exhibition. From the 25¢ entrance fee, the partners cleared a large profit. Several months later, while one of the men was inebriated he confessed that the whole thing was a fake. His partners had used him for a model and had made the body from plaster of Paris, adding a few bones unearthed from his grandfather's grave for authenticity. The men were promptly arrested.

Dorman Cemetery. A ghost pioneer cemetery eight miles northwest of Doland on land formerly owned by Jake Dorman and J. P. Harlow. Workmen, mistaking the crude headstones for native rocks, plowed the burying ground for spring planting.

Ebenezer Cemetery. A Mennonite country cemetery two miles south of Irving postoffice. Organized in 1930. Named for the Church.

Emmanuel Cemetery. In Antelope Township, one mile west and one and one-half miles north of LaDelle Postoffice. Platted June 11, 1922, in the yard of the Emmanuel Church and named for it.

Fairview Cemetery. A Protestant cemetery on the outskirts of Northville. Platted in 1884 and named for its location. According to Mrs.

Elsom, a Civil War widow, the first burial was made in 1873, before the land was opened for settlement, by a group of trail breakers going farther west. Some years later a couple of the travelers returned and placed a marker on the grave. It read, "Sheldon Fuller, 1852-1873."

Frankfort Cemetery. A Protestant cemetery half a mile east of Frankfort. Purchased by the Odd Fellows Lodge in 1886 and named Mount Hope by them. Old burials south of town were moved here in 1911. The Frankfort Cemetery Improvement Association bought the plot from the Odd Fellows. They later changed the name to Frankfort Cemetery Association and the cemetery to Frankfort Cemetery. Named for the town.

Garfield Township Cemetery. A country cemetery six miles south and two miles west of Tulare. Named for the township. Platted in 1882 by A. J. Price, W. P. Price, and George Koler on land owned by E. L. MacNeill. In 1929, MacNeill's son Roy, a transport pilot, returned to his home for a brief visit. He suggested taking his younger brother Lloyd for an airplane ride. Reluctantly his brother accompanied him. However, the plane crashed in the take-off a short distance from the family burying ground, and both boys were killed. They were buried in this cemetery.

Graceland Cemetery. A country cemetery in Section 27, in Crandon Township on land formerly owned by August Marzahn. Soon after the arrival of Mr. Marzahn in the township, from Minnesota, one of his children died suddenly. Within the same year his remaining two children died of diphtheria. His mother-in-law, who lived with the family, and whose husband and only son had been killed in the Indian massacre of New Ulm, grieved so deeply over the death of these children that she died. As all four were buried on his land. Mr. Marzahn donated the plot for a community cemetery. In 1914, all who had relatives buried in the cemetery assembled and voted to call the burying ground Graceland. At that time a memorial arch was erected at the entrance and the cemetery platted.

Greenlawn Cemetery. A Protestant cemetery one half mile north of Redfield. Organized and named in 1880 by A. B. Anderson and F. S. Myers. Mr. Anderson purchased Mr. Myers' share of the land and then sold all the plot to the newly organized Greenlawn Cemetery Association. The cemetery was platted in 1885.

Guttenberg Cemetery. A private cemetery in Section 33 in Frankfort Township on land formerly owned by Matt Guttenberg and now owned by Gust Johnson. Established in 1883, and named for the pioneer land owner. It is well-kept and still used for burial purposes.

Hillestead Cemetery. A private cemetery in Section 11 in Cornwall Township seven miles west and one mile north of LaDelle postoffice. Established in 1882, by Jena Hillestead and named for him.

Irving Cemetery. A well-kept country cemetery situated in the yard of the Irving Church, and named for it. Samuel Hoy, pioneer bishop of the Church, and his wife, and many others of the neighborhood were buried here.

Little Catholic Burying Ground. A pioneer cemetery a few miles northeast of Mellette. So named for the diminutive size of the church, which has been moved to Mellette, and used for other purposes than a church.

Mount Hope Cemetery. (See Frankfort Cemetery.)

Old Indian Burying Ground. Indian Mounds north of Fisher's picnic grounds three miles west of Frankfort. There are three distinct mounds. When one grave was excavated in 1919 by Nels Cooke, C. Adams, and Jim Peterson, the remains of two well-preserved Indians were found. Both were in a sitting position with knees and head raised.

Peck Cemetery. In Section 33, in Cornwall Township, Organized in 1882 by Milo Peck and named for him. The cemetery has been abandoned for thirty years and cattle now roam over the graves.

Rose Cemetery. A pioneer cemetery twelve miles north of Frankfort. Named for Rose postoffice.

Rose Hill Cemetery. A pioneer cemetery fourteen miles south of Frankfort on land formerly owned by Gust Wall. Organized February 23, 1898. Named for the church near it.

Saint Ann's Catholic Cemetery. A cemetery in the north part of Frankfort. Established in 1882 by Anatole France Labrie and E. W. Foster. Said to be the oldest Catholic Cemetery in the county.

Saint Bernard's Catholic Cemetery. A cemetery one mile north of Redfield.

Saint John's Catholic Cemetery. In Olean Township. Platted on October 1, 1910 by D. Caylor Washburn. Named for the Church of Conde.

Saint John's Lutheran Cemetery. Located on Turtle Creek nine miles west of Tulare, in Buffalo Township. Platted in 1887. First called Turtle Creek Cemetery for its location. Re-named for the church.

Saint Joseph's Cemetery. On the east outskirts of Turton. Platted on October 5, 1891, and named by the Saint Louis Catholic Church of Turton.

Saint Mary's Cemetery. A country cemetery one and one-half miles north of Athol. Platted in 1896 and named for the church near it.

Saint Marie's Catholic Cemetery. In Section 6 in Conde Township one-half mile east and one mile south of Verdon. Platted in 1904 on land donated by Patrick Neilan. The church for which it is named is across the road in Brown County.

Salem Cemetery. A Protestant cemetery one mile north and one mile east of Tulare. Platted January 5, 1890. Named for the Salem Congregational Church of Tulare.

Sears Cemetery. A country cemetery in Section 18, in Harrison Township, eleven miles south of Frankfort. Established in 1888 and named for a Mr. Sears, a pioneer landowner.

Sunnyside Cemetery. In Section 7, in Turton Township. Platted on June 5, 1893. So named because it is located on the east side of Turton and built on the south slope of a hill.

Trinity Lutheran Cemetery. A cemetery four miles west and one mile south of Mansfield. Named for the church near it. In 1892 the land was purchased for $25.00 by the German Lutheran Church from James Beter. In the sale contract, it is stipulated that the plot must continue to be used for a cemetery or the land reverts to James Beter or his heirs.

Turtle Creek Cemetery. (See St. John's Lutheran Cemetery.)

Union Township Cemetery. In Section 13 in Union Township. Platted in 1900 and named for the township. Names on the headstones such as Peterson, Hofer, Ratliff, and Fassel, show that people of all denominations are buried here.

Zion Lutheran Cemetery. In Section 8, in Buffalo Township. Platted in 1885 and named for the church near it.

STUDY TO BE FREE

Chapter Six

SCHOOLS

The interest of the first settlers in education appears in the fact that as soon as the country was organized in the fall of 1879, a Superintendent of Schools was appointed by the Board of Commissioners. W. H. Hedges has the honor of being the first Superintendent.

Immediately following his appointment, a petition was circulated for the establishment of a school district. The first school meeting was held at the residence of D. N. Hunt, in January, 1880. Hunt was chosen Moderator, and A. Stanley Hall Secretary. At that meeting, it was voted to build a schoolhouse, and a School Board was elected.

The Board issued warrants and made contracts for $1,300, to build the schoolhouse, and take the warrants in payment. R. B. Spicer, a Watertown lumberman took the contract and the lumber was hauled eighty miles for the school. The building was completed the following June, and on the Monday following the Fourth of July, 1880, the first schoolhouse was opened with Florence Hall, later Mrs. Charles Bickford, as the first teacher. The pupils were Ruth Bowman, (Mrs. John Hipple), William Sweet, Charles Sweet, Robert Runser, George Draper, William Baker (later drowned in Turtle Creek), Lida Bowman (Mrs. W. S. Billinghurst), Lucy Potts, Lucy Tubbs, Robert Meisel, Ona Runser (Mrs. J. Stanton).

The second term was taught in the winter by Georgia Ellis, later Mrs. A. Dykeman, of Minneapolis. That winter of 1880 was the winter of deep snow and she went to school on snowshoes.

The Northville school was built in 1883. It was a one-room school located on the lot where the present school now stands. Maurice Moriarty and Frank Mariner were among the first teachers. During the next three years, there were ten schools built in the township. One was four and one-half miles south of Northville. The first teacher was Mary Mair, whose brother homesteaded one mile from the school. Bessie Stanfield, who froze to death in the blizzard of January 12, 1888, was teaching at this school at the time. School was held each term in this school for sixty years. The building has never been moved.

Some of the first schools in the LaPrairie Township were: The McCaughey school organized in 1883. the Markham school organized in 1885, School No. 3 organized in 1887, the Bromaghim School organized in 1889, the S. S. Garrett School organized in 1890.

Two of the first teachers were H. McCaughey, who taught at the McCaughey School, and Bert Cample who taught at School No. 3.

In 1880, the first postoffice was located at Armadale, the postmaster being James B. Churchill. Mail was delivered to the postoffice once a week by a rural carrier, who came from Groton to Mellette. The postoffice was closed in 1889.

ASHTON SCHOOLS

The records are not very clear as to the very first grade schools maintained in Ashton, but we are quite confident school was held there in one or more of the old type rural school buildings during the early days of that settlement, in what was then known as Ashton, but some two miles to the south of its present location, and now referred to as "Old Ashton." In the early Eighties, perhaps around 1884, a frame structure, two stories high was built for a school, and of this Mr. Harry Rhoades remarks: "I attended this school in 1886, so it was built sometime before 1886. My first teacher was Ella Hawkins. I had attended school in the eastern part of Spink County before going to Ashton."

The first high school class graduated in 1894.

The present brick building was built in 1918, and used to house both high school and grade pupils until the time of consolidation with the other schools in the Northwestern District, at Northville, in 1957. The grades were maintained in Ashton, with only the high school being transferred to the new District; however, we understand that the grade pupils will be taken to Northville hereafter.

The first class graduated in Ashton in 1894, consisted of: Clare Bullen, Henry Perriton, Earl Rhoades, Mary Boyer, and Edith Isenhour. Ashton had a girls' basketball team, in 1906, in the high school. Ashton High school sent exhibits to the Columbia World's Fair Exposition in Chicago in 1893. They were one of the three schools in South Dakota to receive a certificate for school work and exhibits at the Fair. A picture of the first class of 1894, of the basketball team of 1906, with the certificate of award from the Chicago Exposition, are on display on the west wall of the Spink County Museum in Redfield, South Dakota.

ATHOL SCHOOLS

The first elementary school was held in Athol in the early Eighties, probably in the winter of 1883 or 1884. In a primitive building in the northeast part of town just opposite the present Catholic Church, the school was held, with Mrs. Booth as teacher.

After some time, probably as early as 1893, or 1894, a new two-story building was erected on the present school ground. This was used for both grades and high school. The first high school class graduated in the spring of 1910.

The present school building was erected in 1911 and has been used as their complete school plant. At the time of Spink County Reorganization, in the fall of 1957, the high school was sent to Northwestern District No. 55 at Northville. After this year, the plan is to send the grades, too, to Northville, and there will be no further school maintained here.

BRENTFORD SCHOOLS. Dist. No. 56

The town of Brentford is centered in a very fine agricultural center of Spink County. It was late in getting a railroad and very early in losing it. The Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad was built through northern Spink County from Conde to Chelsea in 1907. Another retarding influence was the right of domain granted the Indians by the Federal Government along the James River, between a point north of the Spink-Brown line, and over a territory of two townships in northern Spink County. It might be said that the heart of this influence reached as far south as the so-called "Indian Capital", some miles to the south of "New Ashton," and north of "Old Ashton."

Federal shifting of the Indians from the territory was accomplished early in the Eighties. (In July, 1880), but the trouble was in the mind of many who wished to settle so strongly that, no doubt, many of the less daring "drove their stakes" on what they believed to be "safer ground", elsewhere.

The first schools in Brentford territory were scattered and built of the type of the rural school of that day. However, as early as 1908, an Independent School District was organized. About that time, rural school buildings were moved in from nearby territory in LaPrairie and Tetonka Townships, and sufficient provision was made to provide schools for the first ten grades. The following year a new building was erected, wooden structure, and a full twelve year course has followed since. In the year of 1919, the district was enlarged to take in extra territory and the problems connected with consolidation were faced and solved. The community built roads and buildings to meet the situation and provided van or bus service for all pupils in the outlying territory with transportation into a new plant that was erected at a cost of some $150,000.00. Taxes were high but the battle was won, the debt was paid, and the roads were built.

When the Spink County Reorganization further enlarged the District, they were ready. They had employment for their full plant with little of the added cost many of the other districts had to meet, except for the enlarged bus service they required, and some extra-curricular expense.

The Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad was built through Brentford in 1907, and pulled up in the early thirties. However, they have two very new black topped roads crossing at their corner and almost completed, and will be ready for use by the coming of fall.

CONDE SCHOOLS. Independent School Dist. No. 57.

The building of the railroad marked the beginning of growth in Conde. Up to that time, the only school was in buildings that were moved in from the rural part of the district. When the railroad came thru the town in 1886, a two-room school building was erected and in 1904 this was added to, to care for sufficient school expansion until 1909, when they built the first unit to their present plant, a permanent structure which provided room for housing of the grades and high school under one roof.

This was erected on the present school ground. In 1910, the first high school class was graduated. With this beginning, a very fine school developed rapidly. In 1949, a building combining a gymnasium and auditorium, was built. Again in 1959, additional high school rooms (four) were added in a permanent addition to complete their unit to serve the additions required to meet requirements of the County Reorganization. The bus facilities were increased from two to six, lunch rooms were provided, and a splendid school system was rounded out to meet the needs of the new plan with better teachers and supervision.

They hesitated to ask for any outside help when they needed an auditorium. But money and time were donated to build a beautiful new building that could give space for school activities and community assemblies. Many other communities had obtained aid for this need from Federal gifts, and for this spirit of independence, they are to be very highly commended.

DOLAND SCHOOLS

The Doland Public School system had its birth about the time the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad came through in 1882. The first grade school was held in the upper story of the business building opposite the hotel built about that time by D. P. Fargo. The school room was a long room. The main furniture consisted of two long tables; these served as work tables for the pupils. Each pupil brought his or her own chair from home and contributed one dollar per month toward the teacher's salary; she worked at the hotel to pay for board and room. The next year, 1883, high school classes were held in the Methodist Church. Only four or five boys attended. This same year the grade school was held in a one-room building erected by Mr. Fargo near the site of the present school ground. It was a somewhat enlarged duplicate of the prevailing type for rural schools being built at that time.

In the late Eighties, the District became independent and in 1887 the first building was enlarged to provide sufficient room for the combined grades and high school. So far as I have been able to learn, this building was the one mentioned in the May 18th issue of the Redfield Press, in a series by Miss Dana Harlow. With minor changes, this provided housing for the school until 1913 when the first unit of the present plant was erected. This was a brick structure of a permanent type which housed both grades and high school until 1929, when it was much improved to include a gymnasium and auditorium.

With the Spink County Reorganization in 1957, the District was enlarged. A new addition was made to the old plant at a cost of $125,000.00 bringing the central plant into a completely new unit. In addition to this, three of the best and most modern of the rural school houses in the south part of the district were moved in (a distance of thirteen miles), and converted into an outside unit to house the lower grades, first thru sixth. This unit is strictly modern with water, toilets, and a lunch room, where free lunches are served. A similar arrangement is made in the north end of the District in the Turton School where pupils of the first six grades are taught.

The District employs eight busses and a station wagon to transport the pupils. They plan their curricular activities in such a way that the pupils are returned to their homes by bus and are at home nights for their home work and study.

FRANKFORT SCHOOLS

The Frankfort School, quite oddly and fittingly, had its birth in the first shanty built at the edge of the present townsite as it is now established. The shanty was built very early for it was used as the home and office of one of the men who worked on the county survey which was completed as far north as what is now Highway 212, probably as early as 1879, possibly earlier.

The shack was located on the southeast corner of Section 5, Township 116, Range 62, and was later made into a larger building reputed to be the first house built in Frankfort.

A very early school was held in a building used for a bakery, located in the block opposite the present C. A. Bahde residence. When the railroad came through in 1882, the first house was built and used for school in 1883. This building was used only a short time, and was then moved to the Frank Starr farm and worked into the present residence there.

The next school building was started in 1884, and completed for use in 1885. This was a two-story frame building and was placed along highway 212 just west of the old Bindenagel place and north of where R. L. Lambert now lives, and somewhat to the east. Mrs. Ella Blain Damuth (now of Minneapolis, Minnesota) says that she started school in this house, and graduated from high school there in 1896. Bill Valder went to school there in 1887, and 1888, and was one of the children caught there during the blizzard of 1888. There were forty-six pupils in school and most of them had to be guided home by men who had come with long ropes to guide the children home early in the evening. They clung to the ropes, and were pulled along by the men who held the ends. All arrived home safely with no loss of life.

The first graduating class, according to Mrs. Damuth, consisted of the following: Ella Blain Damuth, two Lincoln girls, and Mrs. Oscar Craig Blain.

The present school plant was begun in 1912, and built without a gymnasium, which was not added until 1932. Under the County Reorganization, Frankfort retains only the lower six grades, the upper grades going to Redfield Independent School District No. 20, in Redfield, South Dakota.

MELLETTE SCHOOLS (Now in Northwestern No. 55)

The school beginning in Mellette was very similar to that in other towns in Spink County. They began by moving in houses from the rural area outside, but were soon compelled to enlarge their plant, and, probably about 1883 or 1884, erected a two-room two-story building on the present school ground. This was further enlarged in 1889, the District becoming an Independent District. This was done by adding an addition to one side, making it into a T-shaped structure large enough to meet the growing demand for room, and for high school facilities.

High school work was begun shortly after 1890, and soon grew into a full four-year, accredited school. Prof. E. H. Kahl went to Mellette as the Superintendent during the early life of the school and was there until a stroke ended his school work in the winter of 1923-1924. He was no doubt there when the high school became a full four-year course, and served as Superintendent of Schools at Mellette continuously from that time, until his illness, except for the time he was on leave to serve as County Superintendent of Schools in Spink County.

The present building was erected in 1916 and housed all twelve grades until the County Reorganization in 1957 removed the upper six grades to Northwestern, at Northville. Hereafter, all of the first six grades will come from Northwestern District No. 55 to Mellette for their school work.

NORTHVILLE-NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT No. 55

The schools in Northville were begun in 1883, in a one-room building on the grounds where the present school stands. The building first used was built somewhat larger, but of the usual type structure of the rural school building in vogue at that time. It housed only elementary grades until 1900 when it was enlarged into an L-shape by the additional erection of a similar room, somewhat longer, on one side. This was of sufficient size to provide room for a full four-year high school course, the first class graduating in 1903. The next two years classes were graduated, but from this on for a time, until 1910, only two grades were maintained. There was no class graduated until 1911, and then regular classes to 1913. In the year 1914, Lucille Ward Baldridge completed her high school work in Redfield, because she was the only member of the class, and they did not open the fourth year that term. Thereafter they have maintained the full twelve grades, regularly.

In 1910, a new brick structure was erected to provide sufficient room for the full twelve grades in a more modern home. Each of two grades in the elementary department were given a room and a teacher. There was an assembly and class rooms for the high school, with an office for the principal; there was no gymnasium. Again, in 1935-1936 extra class rooms were added, with a combination assembly and gymnasium, also lunch room space.

In 1957, at the time the District was enlarged through the County Reorganization, they moved in two of the most modern rural type houses from the rural district, and rebuilt them into quarters for music and manual arts. They are in need of more room which they hope to build in the not too distant future, in spite of the failure of that issue to carry in a special election in 1958. All junior and senior students within the enlarged district are cared for in the Northville school.

Notes were obtained for the above through Roy Percival, Ketha Townsend, Mrs. Chas. Baldridge, Mrs. Stucker, Mary Thompson and others.

REDFIELD SCHOOLS

The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad came into Redfield from the south in 1881. It has been told that during the grading and construction of this road in 1880, there was a school held on the "Redfield Camp Site," for the children belonging to the workers on these crews. This is very possibly true, and if so, was the first Redfield school.

Mr. E. F. Dow, an early settler, and a very reliable reporter, has written about the "first school here" thus: "In 1881, when the first railroad came into Redfield, it became necessary to open a school for the children. A small building was erected, not much better than an early claim shanty, with a stove pipe through the roof and some make-shift seats and desks. Before the end of the term, so many had arrived that it was said that the pupils had to take turns standing and sitting. The teacher was Miss Anna Sayles.

This "First School story," by Mr. Dow, fits so well with one told the writer by C. M. C. Woodland, who is quite well posted in many of the early activities of this community, although he was one of the later arrivals, coming to Dakota in 1914, to enter the publishing business of the "Redfield Press." This was related to me by Mr. Woodland: "I purchased the building I used as the print shop and home from Mathew Goellen and he told me he had moved a part of this building from (I am not sure which) its original site on the corner where the Carnegie Library now stands, or on the other side of the street where the Masonic Temple stands." "The building, as he recalled, had come from two old claim shanties pushed together and made into a single room to become the "first school in Redfield."

We are inclined to believe these two stories are about the same building and, of course, if that is true, then the "first school" here is still part of the old "Redfield Press Building", but quite thoroughly remodeled and no longer in shape to be recognized.

By the turn of Spring, 1882, the rapid growth of the school population forced the attention of the settlers upon further school housing and, what became the first unit of the next school plant was planned and readied for use the following fall. This was a frame structure, two stories high, with a gable roof and tower, and it was of single room width, and almost three times that in length. The length ran north and south and stood on the ground now occupied by the present school building and just north of the Methodist Church which was built later, in 1883.

It is entirely possible that this school building was used by the church for services while the church was being constructed, giving foundation to the story that the "first two room school house in Redfield was converted into a school from a church." However, we do not believe such conversion did take place, but it seems safe to think it was really built for use as a school. This agrees with the story told us by Mrs. Anna B. Schade, whose father built it. For a time, only the lower story functioned as grade school, but later about 1885 the upper story was finished and made into the first high school, from which the first class was graduated in the spring of 1894, May 31st. The following were members from this class: W. H. Bostwick, Roy T. Bull and Haldane Sperry Fisher.

From the beginning the school census grew so rapidly that it became necessary for the school planners to rush the enlargement of this beginning unit into a structure, with a length to the west nearly four times what the original width had been, and became known later as the "old grade building". We are not able to relate just when this extra addition was made, or whether it was all done at one time, but, upon completion it had been given a brick veneering, and toilets were installed in the west end. The roof had been made into a hipped roof with a set of dormer windows on each side, and with a tower and belfry, to the front on the Second Street.

It seemed hardest to determine the origin of the small two-room building that once stood just north of the Methodist Parsonage, and to the southwest of the above building. Frank Packard told me he thought it had been built prior to 1907, for the purpose of giving extra grade room. At the time the new brick building was built in 1908, it was made into a manual training shop and used for that purpose for a time.

This new brick building stood on the west side of the grounds, and faced to the west. It housed the high school on the top story and extra grade rooms on the first floor. The basement was made into a first gymnasium. Offices were placed on the first floor with the grade rooms. At the time manual training and domestic science were introduced, the attic was finished, and made into a very complete department for the domestic science, and manual training went into the small structure mentioned above, and which now stands south of the Spink County Jail and used for a seed cleaning house by the Spink County Co-operative Association.

The present new plant was begun in 1917 when the first, east-half was erected; at this time the old grade building had to be moved out to make room for the new structure. The brick veneer was torn off and the building was moved into the northwest corner of the ground and given a stucco coating, then becoming known as the "Stucco Building."

In 1935-1936 a second unit was added to the present building. The old brick building had been condemned and was taken down. The little building was moved over to the Co-operative grounds and the "Stucco Building" cleaned away too.

This brings the end to the story as of this date, except the last two additions, which, since 1958, have been made to the present plant, on the northeast.

The new plant has a total of thirty-eight rooms, the largest floor space of any public school building in the state. It offers forty-six high school subjects which include ten departments of learning, with eleven high school teachers, full time Superintendent, Clerk and Music Supervisor.

Under the County Reorganization, Frankfort School District was added to Redfield No. 20 and much other territory. After this year, only the first six grades will be maintained at Frankfort.

The District maintains nine school buses and a station wagon to transport the children to and from the outside Districts.

Written by Mr. J. B. Heinmiller

REDFIELD COLLEGE

Redfield College was founded and built in 1887, the cornerstone being laid on July 4th of that year. It was located in the University Addition to Redfield. The average attendance was 150 students.

In 1896, the building was seriously damaged by fire, but was immediately rebuilt. The gymnasium was erected in 1905. The main building and the gymnasium were both three-story brick structures. The observatory was built in 1914.

In June, 1904, the College merged with the Wilton German-English College of Wilton, Iowa. It contained the following departments: College Academy, Normal, Commercial and Music. A four-year course was offered, and a B. A. Degree awarded until 1916, when it became a Seminary. The College was fully accredited by the Department of Education of the State of South Dakota. It was represented at the St. Louis Exposition when it received a certificate of recognition for high scholastic standing.

In 1932 by vote of the general Conference of German-Congregational Churches, all departments of the school were dissolved except that of Theology. That same year, the college merged with Yankton Collge.

FACULTY MEMBERS OF REDFIELD COLLEGE

First President, Reverend David Beaton; Second President, Colonel Evans; Third President, Reverend Patch; 1904-1907 President, H. Seil; 1908-1914 President, U. C. Hirschey; 1914-1920 President, E. A. Fath; 1921-1932 President, O. J. Tiede; 1908-1911 Professor, K. I. Stahl; 1914-1918 Professor, O. J. Tiede; 1916-1924, Professor, W. A. Jieffenberger; 1916-1918, Professor F. Zissler; 1919-1929, Professor J. I. Hining; 1922-1932, Professor H. Schultz; 1924-1928, Professor K. I. Stahl; 1925-1928, Professor W. Schwager; 1929-1932, Professor P. S. Schubert.

TULARE SCHOOLS – Independent District No. 53

Due to the confusion in the building of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad which was completed from Ashton to Mitchell in 1882, a school system in Tulare was somewhat retarded. The population did not centralize and the community schools were taken care of through the building of scattered rural schools. This effect was reflected even to the extent of several families which naturally were nearer to Tulare than to other towns, going over to Crandon for school. The railroad came into Crandon in 1881, and this advantage as a trade center had the effect of drawing to that center for church, business and school life.

However, when the railroad came and as early as 1889 the first school building was established there on the present site. This first school structure was brought in from the rural area west of Tulare, and, with additional enlargement, sufficed to serve the school purpose until 1912. It was built into a sort of T-shaped building of two stories, into which came the beginning of high school work. In 1912, the ninth grade was started, in 1913 the tenth and, upon further enlargement, in 1918, the full four years of high school work started with the first full class graduating in 1921. In 1927, a storm took away part of the upper story, but the repair men fitted them out again; soon thereafter a fire took the entire building, and about the same time a fire took the depot at the railroad, where the school board clerk kept his records of the school. At that time a more permanent brick structure was erected with a gymnasium added in 1939. Again in 1956, under the Spink County Reorganization, a new modern addition was erected which housed the grades each in a separate room, provided school lunch facilities, and sufficient room for a very complete curriculum of work. Their district was enlarged to require five modern busses to replace the older van service which had been provided to bring in the rural pupils from the district. The old vans had started with a pair of school vans powered by Ford Model T engines.

In the winter when weather was bad, the pupils were brought in by sleds pulled by horses or in private cars and conveyances.

They now have a Superintendent and a full time school clerk who renders service both to the school records and those of the District School Board.

Mrs. Wm. McCoy, Mrs. Arneson, Mr. Gilby, Mr. Schwichtenberg, and others have aided in making these notes. The Superintendent Mr. Kloss and the School Clerk were also very helpful.

TURTON SCHOOL AND CONVENT

The first public school held in Turton was in a building moved in from a near rural location in the year 1890. The railroad (Chicago & Northwestern) was built from Doland to Groton, through the eastern part of Spink County in 1885 and 1887 and was completed to Conde in 1886, through Turton.

This should have had the effect of creating a speedy need for enlarged school service and would have, had it not been for the coming of the Ursuline Sisters in 1897 who established the Little Flower Home. This was both an orphanage and Parochial school and cared for the schooling of many of the community children as well as the orphans who were brought there through the interest of Father Guenard. On March 12, 1932, this home and school was burned and all records were lost, making it difficult to obtain any very definite information. Mother Superior, Sister Louise, who was there for most of the life of this institution, is now no longer living.

In 1902 the District formed an Independent School District, and erected a one-story building on the present school site, for a grade school. To this was added an upper story in 1911, to make room for the demand for a high school. This was added to the west in 1932 and on the south in 1956.

This provided for a full high school and the grades, but the next year the County Reorganization shifted the school situation again. The high school and two upper grades were moved to Doland. They still operate a school for the lower grades (first to sixth inclusive), for the north part of the District of Doland Independent District No. 54.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The schools of Spink Couny usually received their names from the men on whose land they were built, for it was the custom of the pioneers to donate an acre of land for a school. However, with the transfer of the land the names of the schools also changed. Some of the schools have been known by as many as five different names. Few have retained their original names. The town schools were built and named almost simultaneously with the towns and post offices.

During the depression of the '30's, the names of the rural schools reflect the instability of the period. Many were closed because of lack of pupils. Others were moved to different locations to accommodate more thickly settled areas. Schools automatically dropped their former names and were called by names of new landowners or renters who lived near by.

A high regard for education was evidenced by the pioneers who sacrificed much to provide their children with an opportunity for learning. Their approbation was evidenced in many of the place names they chose for the small rural schools which dotted the prairies.

Allen School.

(See Deiter School)

Anderson School.

In Clifton School District No. 8 in the northeast part of the County. Erected in 1885 and named for Charles A. Anderson, a prominent pioneer who homesteaded near the school. Church services were held there in the early days under the auspices of Elder Joy of Farmington, New Hampshire, who homesteaded a mile east of the school. United States Senators Thomas Sterling, Thomas Walsh, and Peter Norbeck delivered addresses in the school. Mr. Norbeck's first public talk was given here.

Ash Grove School.

In Antelope School No. 4 in the southeast part of the county. So named because there is an ash grove close to the school. Formerly called Kitzman School for a patron who lived near.

Athol School.

In Athol School District No. 1 in the northwest part of the county. Named for the town.

Barrie School.

In Turton School District No. 37 in the northeast part of the County. So named because at one time all the pupils and even the teacher were "Barries".

Bastian School.

(See Wiles School.)

Beardemphl School.

(See Zell School.)

Bell School.

In Richfield School District No. 48 in the east central part of the county. Named for the Bell residence near the school.

Belle Plaine School.

In Belle Plaine School District in the east part of the county. Named for the township. Formerly called Irish School for the pioneer Irish Brothers, Ben, William, and Elmer Irish, who owned the surrounding land, William Irish donated the land for the building. Elmer Irish was a member of the board for many years.

Belle View School.

(See Habler School.)

Beotia School.

(See Clemenson School.)

Bierman School.

In Gair District No. 4 in the north part of the county. Named for the Bierman family who lived close to the school.

Bixler School.

In Lincoln School District No. 16 in the southeast part of the county. Named in honor of one of the early settlers, J. T. Bixler. The first school house was built in 1885 and the new building was erected in 1929.

Blue Bell School.

In Antelope School District No. 51 in the northeast part of the county. Origin of the name is unknown.

Blume School.

(See Lake Road School.)

Board School.

(See Heer School.)

Borge School.

In Mellette School District No. 3 in the north part of the county. So named because it is built on Borge's land. Formerly called Peck School for the pioneer family of that name.

Borwell School.

In Beotia School District No. 30 in the northeast part of the county. Named for the pioneer Ed Borwell who donated in 1890 the land for the school.

Brachvogel School.

In Garfield School District No. 25 in the southwest part of the county. Built in territorial days and named for a patron by that name.

Brink School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in the central part of the county. Named for the nearest neighbor. Formerly called Canny School for Elder Canny, a pioneer minister who planned the construction of the school. It was used as one of his three churches.

Brush Center School.

In Mellette School District No. 3 in the north central part of the county. Built in 1920 and named for Brush Center Colony, a pioneer settlement. Building was destroyed by fire December 12, 1942.

Buck School.

(See Shult School.)

Burgess School.

In Prairie Center School District No. 45 in the east part of the county. Named for the pioneer family on whose land the school is built.

Canny School.

(See Brink School.)

Case School.

A pioneer school in Mountain School District No. 11 in the southwest part of the county. Named for a homesteader.

Center School.

In Garfield School District No. 25 in the southwest part of the county. Built in territorial days and named for its location in the district.

Christensen School.

In Sumner School District No. 7 in the central eastern part of the county. Named for the Christensen family which for many years has lived near the school and cared for it.

Church School.

In Gair School District No. 4 in the north part of the county. So named because it is close to the Trinity Lutheran Church.

Clark School.

(See Nash School.)

Clearview School.

In Gair School District No. 4 in the north part of the county. So named because of what its name indicates. Formerly called the Percival School for the pioneer W. R. Percival family. During the blizzard of January 12, 1888, the teacher, Bessie Stansfield, perished when she attempted to return to the Percival home a few rods across the road.

Clemenson School.

In Beotia School District No. 30 in the northeast part of the county. Named in 1891 for the former owner of the land, Chris Clemensen. Was first called the Beotia School for the township and was located four miles west and two miles north of Conde. Early in 1883 a Methodist Sunday School class was organized and meetings were held here.

Cleveland School.

In Mellette School District No. 3 in the north central part of the county. Named for the Cleveland family living close to the school.

Clyde School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the east central part of the county. Built in 1881 near the old Clyde post office and named for it. It is one of the oldest schools in the county.

Coats School.

(See Hillview School.)

Coolidge School.

In Belmont School District No. 18 in the south part of the county. Named for the president.

Cooper School.

In Belle Plaine School District No. 46 in the east part of the county. Named for R. A. Cooper, a patron.

Craig School.

In Frankfort School District No. 2 in the central part of the county. Named for the various Craig families who homesteaded on the adjoining land. The building was moved one and one-half miles northeast from its former location in the early nineties.

Crandon Settlement School.

In Garfield School District No. 25 in the southwest part of the county. Named for the town.

Crandon Village School.

In Crandon School District No. 17 in the south part of the county. Named for the village.

Cranefield School.

In Benton School District No. 26 in the northeast part of the county. So named because Cranefields were the closest patrons. Was built in 1907 and has been closed since 1940.

Crocket School.

In Garfield School District No. 25 in the south part of the County. Named for a patron.

Dawson School.

(See Franz School.)

Decker School.

In Cornwall School District No. 3 in the south part of the county. Named for the neighboring Decker family.

Deiter School.

In Frankfort School District No. 4 in the central part of the county. Formerly called the Allen School for the pioneer D. W. Allen. Re-named in 1928 for the new land owner and school board member, Charles Deiter. The school was built in 1884 after the pattern of a church under the direction of Elder Canny and served as a church for many years. It was the second place in the county where church services were held, Belcher's Ford being the first.

Dix School.

In Turton District No. 37 in the northeast part of the county. Named for a patron by that name.

Dorman School.

(See Sapp School.)

Dow School.

(See Rabuck School.)

Dunker School.

In Mellette School District No. 3 in the north part of the county. Named for the Dunker family who lived across the road.

Dvorak School.

(See Hillcrest School.)

Ebbert School.

(See Happy Hour School.)

Eske School.

(See Taylor School.)

Evans School.

In Gair School District No. 4 in the north part of the county. Named for a patron.

Ever Ready School.

In Olean School District No. 6, in the northeast part of the county. Named by the Young Citizens League.

Fairview School.

In Union School District No. 38 in the southeast part of the county. Named for its location.

Fasset School.

(See Wiles School.)

Ford School.

In Mellette School District No. 3 in the north central part of the county. Named for the Ford family living close to the school.

Frankfort School No. 1.

In Frankfort School District No. 1 in the east central part of the county. Built in the fall of 1891. Named for the town. Formerly called Schaffer School for a pioneer, Fred Schaffer, Sr. Also known as the Yaune School for the homesteader Bill Yaune who lived one-half mile east of the school house.

Frase School.

In Mountain School District No. 11 in the west part of the county. Renamed in 1927 for the nearest family. Formerly called Dawson School, for the pioneer, Dawson.

Fraset School.

In Belmont School District No. 18 in south central part of the county. Named for nearest patron.

Gallup School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the north part of the county. Named for the Gallup elevator which is directly north of it.

Geary School.

In Olean School District No. 6 in the north part of the county. Named for a patron.

Gehringer School.

In Cornwall District No. 43 in the southeast part of the county. Named for Dudley Gehringer, who rented the land where the school is built.

Golden Rule School.

In Capitola School District No. 39 in the central part of the county. Name taken from the motto of the school.

Gould School.

(See White School.)

Gregory School.

In Tetonka School District No. 5 in the north part of the county. Named for the landowner.

Grobe School.

(See Wiles School.)

Habler School.

Named for Fred Habler in 1939 when the building was moved to his land. The school was formerly called Belle View School for its attractive surroundings.

Hajek School.

(See Heer School)

Hansen School.

(See Steffes School.)

Happy Hollow School.

In Harrison School District No. 15 in the southeastern part of the county. Named by the Y.C.L. because of its location.

Happy Hour School.

In Union School District No. 38 in the southeast part of the county. Named by the patrons. Formerly called Ebbert School for one of the patrons. Built in 1927.

Hardie School.

In Mountain School District No. 11 in the southwest part of the county. Named for a neighboring family.

Harding Rock School.

In Spring School District No. 47 in the east central part of the County. Bears a name of undetermined origin.

Heer School.

In Richfield School District No. 48 in the east central part of the county. Named in 1930 for the family who lived next door. Formerly called Board School or Hajek School for a patron by that name, and previous to that the Paris School for the pioneer Paris family.

Henning School.

In Gair School District No. 4 in the north part of the county. Named for Fred Henning, a patron.

High Prairie School.

In Union School District No. 38 in the southeast corner of the county. Named for its location.

Hillcrest School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in the central part of the county. So named in 1929 because of its location. First called Klebsch School for the pioneer family, and later Dvorak School for a patron.

Hillestead School.

In Cornwall School District No. 43 in the south part of the County. Named for a patron.

Hillview School.

In Capitola School District No. 39 in the southeast part of the county. Re-named in 1940 by the pupils for the location. Formerly called the Coats School for a patron.

Holmes School.

In Richfield School District No. 48 in the east central part of the county. Named for the patron nearest the school.

Houseman School.

In Tetonka School District No. 46 in the north part of the county. Named for the Houseman family who lived near the school.

Irish School.

(See Belle Plaine School.)

Ironside School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in the southwest part of the county, erected in 1902 and closed in 1923. Origin of name unknown.

Jenner School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the central part of the county. Named for the family who lived nearest the school.

Jensen School.

(See Taylor School.)

Kiser School.

In Tetonka School District No. 5 in the north part of the county. Named for W. C. Kiser, the landowner.

Kittlesland School.

In LaPrairie School District No. 3 in the north central part of the county. Built in 1884 on land owned by Tom Kittlesland and named for him.

Kitzman School.

(See Ash Grove School.)

Klapperich School.

In Summer School District No. 7 in the northeast part of the county. Built in 1898 across from the Klapperich farm and named for A. Klapperich, the landowner.

Kleer School.

In Athol School District No. 6 in the northeast part of the county. Named for the family who lived close to the school.

Klebsch School.

(See Hillcrest School.)

Kurtz School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in the southwest part of the county. Named for Henry Kurtz, who donated the land for the school.

LaDelle School.

In LaDelle School District No. 44 in the southeast part of the county. Named in 1882 for the post office.

Lake Road School.

In Mountain School District No. 11 in the southwest part of the County. So named because it is located near the road leading to Cottonwood Lake. Formerly called the Blume School because the Fred Blume family lived near.

Lake View School.

In Mountain School District No. 11 in the southwest part of the county. So named for its view of Cottonwood Lake.

Lau School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the west central part of the county. Named for a patron.

Lawrence School.

In Belle Plaine School District No. 46 in the east part of the county. Built in the early 80's on land across from the farm home of Charles W. Lawrence and named for him.

Leesch School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the north part of the county. Named for a patron.

Lenz School.

In Beotia School District No. 30 in the northeast part of the county. Named for Anton and Joseph Lenz, pioneers who homesteaded close by.

Lew West School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the northeast part of the county. Named for the pioneer, Lew West, who lived near by.

Lidtke School.

In Frankfort School District in the east central part of the county. Named for a patron.

Lincoln School.

In Belmont School District No. 18 in the south part of the county. Named in 1925 for President Lincoln.

Live Wire School.

In Union School District No. 38 in the southeast part of the county. So named by Young Citizens League for the alert pupils.

Mannie School.

In Turton School District No. 37 in the northeast part of the county. Named for the pioneer by that name.

Mansfield School.

In Mansfield School District No. 23 in the northwest part of the county. Built in 1940 and named for the town.

Marlette School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in the southwest part of the county. Named for the family living nearest to the school.

McLain School.

In Benton School District No. 20 in the northeast part of the county. Named for a patron.

McKinley School.

In Belmont School District No. 18 in the south part of the county. Built in 1931 and named for President McKinley.

Meyers School.

In Crandon School District No. 17 in the south part of the county. Named for a patron who lived near the school.

Miles School.

In Benton School District No. 26 in the northeast part of the county. Built in 1882 on the L. D. Miles land, hence its name. In 1935 this school was badly wrecked by two school boys. It was not in operation at the time and has not been since.

Morgan School.

In Mellette School District No. 3 in the north part of the county. Named for the family living nearest the school.

Morning Star School.

In Crandon School District No. 41 in the southwest part of the county. Name was chosen by the patrons of the school at a school entertainment. Built in 1916. Formerly called the Price School for the pioneer Price family.

Morning Star School.

In Athol School District No. 6 in the west part of the county. Named by a pupil.

Nash School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in the southwest part of the county. First called the Clark School for the pioneer Clark family. Now known as the Nash School for the Hugh Nash family who formerly lived near. One of the three schools in the county the building of which Elder Canny supervised. Church was held here in the early days.

Neitzel School.

In Garfield School District No. 25 in the southwest part of the county. Named for a patron living near the school.

Nelson School.

In Spring School District No. 47 in the east part of the county. Named for a patron of the school.

Ness School.

In Frankfort School District No. 3 in the central part of the county. Built in 1885 and named Wagner School for the pioneer David Wagner who was responsible for the building of the school. Later re-named for the landowner Lou Ness.

Noonan School.

In Frankfort School District No. 6 in the central part of the county. Named in 1890 for the landowner John Noonan, Sr.

Old Ashton School.

Built in 1880 on a hill near Old Ashton. Considered one of the oldest schools in the county. No longer in operation.

Osborne School.

(See Sunny View School.)

Otto School.

In Garfield District No. 25 in the southwest part of the county. Named for a patron living nearest the school. Formerly called the Schneider School for a member of the school board at the time of construction.

The present building was erected in 1920 to replace the one destroyed by a prairie fire.

Padfield School.

(See Taylor School.)

Palmer School.

In Mellette School District No. 3 in the north part of the county. Named for a patron whose residence was near the school.

Paris School.

(See Heer School.)

Peck School.

(See Borge School.

Percival School.

(See Clearview School.)

Peterson School.

In Prairie Center School District No. 45 ,in the central part of the county. Named for a patron.

Philetus Lang School.

In Belle Plaine School District No. 46 in the east part of the county. One of the first schools in the county, and named for a pioneer landowner.

Plainview Academy.

A denominational academy of the Seventh Day Adventists, also known as Pleasant View Academy, one mile south of Redfield. Its name is self-explanatory. The institution is practically self-supporting, because it owns well equipped and valuable farm property, which is farmed largely by the students, who thus pay their expenses at the school.

Plainview School.

In Athol School District No. 2 in the west part of the county. Named for its location.

Pleasant Ridge School.

In Lake School District No. 19 in the southwest part of the county. Built in 1929 and named by the teacher for its location.

Pleasant View Academy.

(See Plainview Academy.)

Pleasant View School.

In Mountain School District No. 11 in the southwest part of the county. Named for the location.

Prairie Center School.

A closed school in Harrison District No. 15 named by the pupils for its location.

Prairie Pride School.

A closed school in Harrison District No. 15 in the southeast part of the county. Named by the Young Citizens League because it is a fine building, and located on the Prairie.

Prairie View School.

In Lincoln School District No. 16 in the southeast part of the county. Named for its location in the district.

Prairieville School.

In Gair School District No. 4 in the north part of the county. So named for its location.

Price School.

In Athol School District No. 1 in the north part of the county. Named for the family living nearest the school.

Rabuck School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in the southwest part of the county. Named for the homesteader Frederick Rabuck, who donated two acres of land for the school and grounds. Also known as the Dow School for Arthur H. Dow, the pioneer postmaster at the nearby post office of Bangor. The building was erected in 1883 in the form of a church, under the supervision of Elder Canny, a pioneer minister of the county. The belfry has been removed, otherwise no change has been made in the original building.

Red Star School.

In Belle Plaine School District No. 46 in the east part of the county. Named in 1883 by Theodore Hansen, moderator of the school, for his school in Iowa. He made a red star and put it on the east gable of the building. Mrs. Donald McKay, nee Abbie Reynolds, was the first teacher. The school served as a community center in the pioneer days.

Roager School.

In Benton School District No. 26 in the northeast part of the county. Built in 1874 and named for a pioneer family in the neighborhood. It has been in continuous operation.

Roe School.

In Belle Plaine School District No. 46 in the east part of the county. Named for William Roe, pioneer.

Roeber School.

In Lake School District No. 19 in the southwest part of the county. Named for the nearest neighbor. The school was built in 1928.

Rosebud School.

In Frankfort School District No. 9 in the south central part of the county. Named for the lavish growth of wild roses in the vicinity.

Rasmussen School.

(See Willow Dale.)

Rueschenberg School.

In Frankfort School District No. 2 in the central part of the county. Named for Casper Rueschenberg, the homesteader. First called the McLain School for the pioneer who in 1885 deeded one acre of land to the school. In the winter of 1924, this building burned and the present building was erected in the summer of 1925.

Runsir School.

In Redfield School District in the east part of the county. Named for Philip Runsir, who donated the land for the school in 1880. This was the first frame school house built in the county.

Saboe School.

In Union School District No. 38 in the southwest corner of the county. Named for the nearest patron.

Saugstead School.

In Cornwall School District No. 43 in the south part of the county. Named for the Saugstead family that lived near the school.

Sapp School.

In Prairie Center School District No. 45 in the northeast part of the county. Named for the Ed Sapp family that lived across the road. Built in the fall of 1888 on an acre of land donated to the county by M. C. Harlow, the homesteader on whose land the school was built. At that time called the Dorman School because of the number of Dorman children who attended the school. In the early 1900's the building was moved one-half mile east and one mile north to its present location.

Sausoman School.

In Tetonka School District No. 5 in the north part of the county. Named for the patron who lived near the school.

Schmidt School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in the east part of the county. School was erected in 1902 and closed in 1923. Named for the landowner.

Schneider School.

(See Otto School.)

Schaffer School.

(See Frankfort School.)

Schwenn School.

In Athol School District No. 1 in the north part of the county. Named for the family living nearest the school.

Sharp School.

In Redfield School District No. 12 in southwest part of the county. Named for a patron living near.

Shult School.

In Belle Plaine School District No. 46 in the east part of the county. Formerly called Buck School as it was built in 1893 on land owned by the pioneer George Buck. In 1907 Mr. Shult purchased the land. As his seven children attended the school, it became known as the Shult School.

State School & Home.

A home for the mentally retarded, located one-half mile north of Redfield. Named by Legislative enactment in 1903. H. P. Packard, of Redfield, then a member of the legislature, was instrumental in having this institution located in Spink County.

Steffes School.

In Clifton School District No. 8 in the northeast part of the county. Named for the land the school was built on, donated by an early settler, John Steffes. Sometimes called the Hansen School for another early settler by that name.

Stoller School.

In Sumner School District No. 7 in the northeast part of the county. Built in 1905 and named for Mr. Stoller, a member of the school board at the time of erection.

Stover School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the north part of the county. Named for a patron.

Sunbeam School.

In Buffalo School District No. 33 in the southwest part of the county. So named for the motto of the school given by the Young Citizens League.

Sunnyview School.

In Harrison School District No. 50 in the south part of the county. So named in 1924 for its location. Formerly called the Osborn School for a patron.

Sunshine School.

In Antelope School District No. 52 in the southeast part of the county. Named by the pupils for the vast amount of sunshine in the building most of the day.

Taylor School.

In Olean School District No. 6, in the northeast part of the county. Built in 1886, on land owned by the Taylor family and named for it.

Taylor School.

In Conde School District No. 29 in the northeast part of the county. Built in 1894, and named for a patron on whose land the school was built. Also known as Jensen and Zeck Schools for other patrons who lived nearby. First called Padfield and then Eske for former patrons.

Timber Creek School.

In Sumner School District No. 7 in the east central part of the county. Named by the pupils for its location on Timber Creek.

Tomsha School.

In Crandon School District No. 14 in the south part of the county. Named for the family living near the school.

Tubandt School.

In Lake School District No. 19 in the southwest part of the county. Built in 1929 and named for the nearest neighbor.

Turtle Creek School.

In Buffalo School District No. 33 in the southwest corner of the county. So named because of its location on Turtle Creek.

Valley View School.

In Lake School District No. 19 in the southwest part of the county. So named by the teacher for its location.

Violet Center School.

In Clifton School District No. 8 in the northeast part of the county. So named because at one time there was a large bed of violets in the school yard.

Wagner School.

(See Ness School.)

Waller School.

In Tetonka School District No. 5 in the northeast part of the county. Named for Ed Waller, the landowner.

Washington School.

In Belmont School District No. 18 in the east part of the county. Built in 1929 and named for George Washington.

Watson School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the north part of the county. Named in 1920 for the family who lived near the school.

White School.

In La Prairie School District No. 1 in the north central part of the county. Named for a nearby resident, who was interested in bettering education for his children. The school was first called Gould School for the pioneer on whose land it was built. The first school on this location was a claim shanty. The present building was erected in 1905.

Wiles School.

In Clifton School District No. 8 in the northwest part of the county. Built in 1882 and first called Fasset School for the County Superintendent. Re-named the Grobe School for John Grobe, a pioneer on whose land it was built. Later called the Bastian School for August Bastian, homesteader. At present, known as the Wiles School for Everett Wiles, who rents the adjoining farm.

Willow Dale School.

In Lincoln School District No. 16 in the southeast part of the county. Named because of the location in the district.

Weinreiss School.

In Mellette School District No. 3 in the north central part of the county. Named for the patron living nearest the school.

Wright School.

In Frankfort School District No. 7 in the central part of the county. Named for the pioneer patron on whose land the school was built.

Yaune School

(See Frankfort School No. 1.)

Zeck School.

(See Taylor School.)

Zell School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the north part of the county. Named for the Otto Zell family who lived near the school. Formerly called Beardemphl School for a pioneer, Charles Beardemphl.

Zeigler School.

In Ashton School District No. 9 in the north part of the county. Named for the nearest patron.

HISTORY OF SCHOOLS IN CLIFTON TOWNSHIP

BOYER SCHOOL, NO. 1.

On March 6, 1882, at the home of J. L. Boyer, the qualified voters of Sub-District No. 17 met and elected the following officers:

J. L. Boyer, Director; W. H. Hill, Clerk; W. Boyer, Treasurer.

The site of the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 7, Township 118, Range 62 was selected and in due time a schoolhouse was built.

Miss Susie S. Graves taught three months at $20.00 a month, beginning September 18, 1882. A spring term was taught by Miss Ida Hagen, starting April 30, 1883. The next two teachers were Minnie McCannon, 1884, and Mary E. Justice, 1885.

A special election was held May 24, 1909, and it was voted to move the schoolhouse to site of Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 8.

This schoolhouse was used for Church and Sunday School services in the early days. After it was moved, it was known as the Houseman School, and in 1928 it became the place for the township elections. After reorganization, the school building was sold and moved away.

BASTIAN SCHOOL, NO. 2.

On the 7th of January, in 1882, the county Superintendent P. C. Cook, met with the qualified voters and created Sub-District No. 13. On February 6, 1882, the following persons were elected to office:

August Bastian, Director; Samuel Hunt, Treasurer; William Boub, Clerk.

At a special school meeting June 29, 1882, it was voted to build a schoolhouse on the Southeast corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 117, Range 62.

School No. 2 known as the Bastian School was taught by Miss Cora Reed, who signed a contract to teach two months at $20.00 per month, beginning July 10, 1882. John E. Davis taught three months beginning November 10, 1882, followed by Annie A. Taylor, May 14, 1883, and Ida Ferris in 1884, also A. C. Justice in 1884, and E. Crookston in 1885, and Pauline Bastian later.

The following pupils were enrolled in the first two terms of school: Lena, Frank, Franklin, Walter, Ameal, Ervin, and Ferdinand Bastian, Clara Mary, and Frank Bindenagel, Lucy, Nettie, Hattie, Dannie, Samuel and Johnnie Hunt, Henry, Eddie, and Sophy Meidick, Sadie Cook, Nicky and Henry Mittz, and Lewis Bagge.

In 1889 a twelve foot addition was added. This school was used for Church and Sunday School services sponsored by the German Methodists.

In the spring of 1928, about six o'clock, it had burned, probably caused by spontaneous combustion, as the fire was burning in the opposite corner from the stove, as reported by Frances Lee, who was the teacher at that time. The remainder of the term was completed in an "old cook car," which was moved to the school ground. Then a new modern building was erected and became known as the Wiles School. After Reorganization, this building was saved as the voting center for Harmony Township.

In August, 1883, a special meeting was held whereby the two Sub-Districts were re-evaluated and as a result of an election, the Clifton School Township Board was organized:

Frank A. Fassett, Clerk; Samuel M. Hunt, Treasurer; George Boyer, Director.

GRAVES SCHOOL, NO. 3.

As a result of another special meeting at F. A. Fassett's home, it was voted to finance and build a schoolhouse in the Lewis district, known as No. 3, the site of the building to be the Southwest corner of the Southwest Quarter of Section 21, Township 118, Range 62. The plans for the building were submitted by Superintendent E. A. Dye, and it was built by J. H. Walker. The first teacher was Emma Taylor, in 1884, and later A. C. Justice in 1885, and Ella Hawkins. Pupils enrolled during these first two terms were: Harvey, Katie, Arthur, and Fred Chadwick, Fannie, Johnnie, and Willie Lloyd, Otto and Reinhold Barz, Dan and Bert Lewis, Homer, John, Lewis, and Hattie West, Henry, Fred and George Hansel, Ozen and Lollie Fassett. The summer term included Fred, Neil, and Frank Carrier, Jake Graves, Harry Mosher, and Lottie Melloy.

E. N. Graves taught this school the year of the blizzard in 1888, and had to remain in the building with his pupils overnight.

School was discontinued here by the summer of 1918, as a new schoolhouse was built known as the Homer West School. This building remained vacant until it was moved to the site of School No. 4 in the summer of 1927.

BARZ SCHOOL, NO. 4.

The voters of Clifton Township met January 5, 1884, and having properly petitioned for a schoolhouse in the neighborhood of Antoine Brosseau, voted to finance and build School No. 4, the site being Southeast Quarter of Section 23, Township 118, Range 62. Emma A. Taylor was hired to teach the spring term of two and one-half months in 1885. (It was not until June 4, 1887, that District No. 4 was created.)

In the spring of 1925, a slow smouldering fire had started in the back coal shed, and this enabled the teacher Helen Olson and her six pupils to remove practically all the school furniture and books. This equipment was moved upstairs in Ted Anderson's house, and they completed the school year there.

In the summer of 1927, School building No. 3 was moved to the site of School No. 4, and later became known as the Hansen School. This building is still standing, although without windows; it will soon deteriorate, as it is now seventy-seven years old.

ANDERSON SCHOOL, NO. 5.

On July 12, 1885, a petition was granted for the building of a schoolhouse on the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 117, Range 62. Mr. C. A. Anderson was appointed to draw up the plans for the building. As a result of this in January, 1888, District No. 2 was cut in half and the east portion became District No. 5.

The first teacher was Sarah J. Lincoln, who taught two terms from December 12, 1887, to April 3, 1888, and November 26, 1888 to March 15, 1887. She was followed by Stella Fellows from November 17, 1889 to March 7, 1890, and Nellie S. Flynn, Mrs. J. P. Harlow, from April 7, 1890 to June 27, 1890.

The first pupils enrolled in the beginning terms were:

Gust Erickson (age 26), George, Robert, and Thomas Luxton, Clinton and Mabel Craig, Cora, Rosy and George Haugh, Augusta, Elsie and Nina Benedict, Gracie and Eda O. Joy, and Helen Black.

In later years this school became known as the Luxton School.

By 1888, the Clifton School District was divided into five Sub-Districts, with a school being maintained in each district. Also as each school was created, a moderator was appointed to look after the interests of that school. First moderators were John Bloomhall for Boyer School, No. 1, in 1883. William Boub, for Bastian School, No. 2, in 1883. William Chadwick for Graves School, No. 3, in 1884. Antoine Brosseau for Barz School, No. 4, in 1885, and C. A. Anderson for Anderson School, No. 5, in 1888.

In December, 1883, the Clifton School Township Board adopted the following text books:

Swinton's Readers, Reed & Kellogg's Grammar, Harper's 1st and 2nd Books in Arithmetic, Harrington Complete Speller, Swinton's Elementary & Grammar School Geography, Barnes' U. S. History, Steele's Physiology, and Spencerian Writing Books.

By 1885, a larger Webster's Unabridged Dictionary was purchased for each school and in 1889 wall maps of United States and Canada were also purchased. In 1891, it was voted to have uniformity in text books in schools.

In 1884, Frank A. Fassett, Clerk, took a school census. (Unable to find record of 1883 census.)

In 1886, it was voted to hold seven months term of school during the year, which time was set for the convenience of the patrons, it usually was a four months winter term, and three months summer term. In 1907, it was voted to have eight months of school.

By 1891, the affairs of the schools were separated from the Township, as a new set of officers were elected to be known as the "Clifton School Board."

R. W. Baker, Chairman. (Soon resigned, and term completed by Fred Bastian.)

E. N. Graves, Clerk. Wm. Boub, Treasurer.

OLSON SCHOOL, NO. 6.

As no school had been provided in the northeastern section of the township Jed J. Critchett petitioned for a schoolhouse on the Northeast corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 10, in July, 1905. Another petition by A. N. Clausen in 1906 was not accepted either. Finally in the fall of 1917, a corner of land was given by J. B. Hansen for the site of the school, the Northwest corner of Section 12. George Small had the contracts for both the school and the Homer West School. Carl and Fred Clausen and McCullough of Ashton built it and by January 18, 1918 the first term of school was taught by Anna Lambert.

The first pupils were: Agnes, Ruby, Mildred, Margaret, and Hazel

Johnson. Fred and Clarence Lenth, Margaret and Johnnie Clausen, Mathias Clausen, Paul Olson, and Norman Kettering.

Occasionally this school was used for Church services by itinerant ministers and spasmodic sessions of Sunday School were held, too.

The building was bought and moved to the Maurice Haven farm.

HOMER WEST SCHOOL, NO. 3.

At the same time the Olson School was being built, the identical West School was also being constructed but for some reason the first term of school started the following fall in September, 1918. Miss Bertha Clausen was the first teacher in the new school room.

The building of this new building on the northwest corner of Section 31, caused the old school No. 3 to be abandoned. This school became known as the Homer West School and later the Eph Williams School. As the old Barz and Housman schools were situated on poor roads and the buildings were in a state of deterioration, the new school was designated as the voting place for Clifton and it was retained after school Reorganization.

SCHOOL DAYS AT TETONKA TOWNSHIP

Mary Clarke, oldest daughter of Philip and Charlotte Clarke, was the first teacher. The year was 1882-1883.

Among her pupils were her sisters, Elsie and Mira, and her brothers, Gordon and Robert, her cousins, Ruby and Henry Hedges, Ralph, Judson, and Leon Towne, Charles Hoyt.

The writer first enrolled, at five and one-half years, for the spring term in April, 1883. Probably most grades were represented, but the schools were ungraded and pupils brought such books as their homes afforded. New books available were Appleton's Readers, 1 to 5, Reed & Kellogg grammars, Robinson's Arithmetic, Harrington Spellers, and Appleton Geographies, Spencerian Penmanship in Copy Books. Sessions were 9:00 A.M. to 4 P.M.; 15 minutes recess at 10:30 to 10:45, and 2:30 to 2:45, with one hour for lunch and play, 12 to 1 o'clock, five days a week, not less than six months a year. However, the older boys who helped with the farm work went to school for only five months.

I believe No. 1 was the largest school house in the township and it was well lighted for these times, with three large double sash windows, with 12"x16" panes, on each side. There were good sized double seats with drop leaf desks. There was a blackboard across the back, the north wall. An entry with a covered coal bin on the east side. For heat, we had a big Blizzard soft-coal heater near the center of the room with the chimney at the north end. Perhaps my readers know that soft coal can be sooty, and how it can smoke! More than once, the teacher had to dismiss school and call the moderator to clean that long run of pipe. I know, for after I was seven, my father was the moderator for several years. The day I was seven, he told me, "You made me a voter today." It was the law.

He hauled the coal, too. There are grades of coal, and he had to take what was in stock. In cold weather, we had to huddle around the big heater. No storm windows, cold floors, books before our faces to ward off the heat, while we tried to warm our feet. Pop! A frozen ink bottle blows its cork and decorates the ceiling. Didin't he know he shouldn't set it on the stove?

Fridays were always interesting days. Reward of Merit cards for good work, behavior and attendance. In the last period this week we might have a spelling match, and next week literary programs, when we "spoke pieces" or took part in "Dialogues". What fun!

School always opened with a passage from the Bible, a hymn. We used those little gospel hymnals, 1, 2, 3, about 2"x3", no music, property of the Sunday School.

As soon as the framework of the schoolhouse was up and enclosed, in 1883, Sunday School was started, with David C. Cook supplies. Denomination? Never heard the term, but we had reason to believe we had Presbyterians, Wesleyan Methodists, Lutherans, and Methodists in the congregation. A Mr. Crosby, the State Sunday School Secretary occasionally visited. The foundations of religious training were laid for later development.

I passed the entrance examination to Madison Normal School, at the age of fifteen years, and took my first and only teacher's examination in less than two years. I received a Second Grade Certificate and a teacher's contract.

While Mary Clarke was teaching No. 1, Bert Hedges was teaching the Ford School in Mellette Township. They were invited to visit our school one Friday afternoon. What a time to arrange that date! And the pupils were to spell, at least the older ones. The younger ones were permitted to listen, only. The girls looked like young ladies. One went down on the word "wait", and another one on "why".

Teachers I recall were: Bert Hedges; Hattie Udell, who wore long curls down her back; and Reuben C. Styles.

Mr. Styles, his wife and young son Robert lived on the "town line", north of Mrs. Robert Clarke's present home. He drove a team, hitched to a stone boat, and Will and Dora Wackerow rode to school with him, and sometimes Gordon and Robert Clarke. That was the winter of the big blizzard, on January 12, 1888. Will Wackerow did not come to school that day, but Dora did, also Gordon, Robert, and the Towne boys. The storm struck our neighborhood about 9:30 in the morning. I saw it strike.

My father refused to take the team out and break the road through the night's heavy wet snowfall. I was disappointed, but it was well he didn't. Mr. Styles closed school and started home, the storm still raging. The Townes reached home safely, one-half mile from school, but Judson's face was frozen. Mr. Styles' team veered from the storm, eyes frozen over and ran into the southwest corner of the Clarke house, so Mr. Styles and Dora stayed all night, going home the next day when it was cold and clear, and the drifts had hardened.

Mary Clarke, who was teaching the Brush Center school, managed to get a lamp from Page's and she and her pupils stayed in the schoolhouse all night. So did Mira's in the Ford school, but she had no lights. She kept her pupils from freezing by having them march.

The largest attendance at School No. 1 was 33 pupils, still ungraded, with miscellaneous text-books, but I remember that year was one of the last. We really studied. Discipline? Wonderful. If anyone was reprimanded, the rest of us accepted it, as his just deserts, and attended to our own studying. Miss Udell gave up teaching because she thought she was not a success, but she was one of my best teachers.

Some of the pupils there, besides those above mentioned, were: Alta Hoyt, Clara and Bertha Little, from the river bottom west of Emil Brunn's. One winter they lived at our house and boarded themselves from Monday night to Friday morning. They walked one morning, had soaking wet shoes which they wore all day and Clara, seventeen years of age, caught a cold from which she never recovered and died two years later of "quick consumption". It was perhaps one of the greatest tragedies of School No. 1 in the early days. She was a sister of Dana, Arthur, and Alice Little.

Because they were at our house that winter, I enjoyed privileges that I might not otherwise have had, such as attending the Literary Society on Thursday night of each month. This was largely attended by older pupils and the young people of the neighborhood for miles around. Familiar names I recall were Hedges, Isa Wynn, Clarkes, Lufkins, and Carl Runge.

I went to my first Christmas tree at Brush Center schoolhouse. It was a willow tree with the boughs wrapped with green tissue, and the Santa Claus was in a buffalo overcoat, in the person of Owen Calhoun.

We crossed the James River on ice as Little's lived on the east side of the River. Other pupils of School No. 1. not heretofore mentioned, were: Everett and Orva Towne, Janet Towne, Ed. and Perry Akers, cousins of the Townes, sons of Wallace and Ella Noyes Akers, and grandsons of Dr. John T. Akers, a self-trained veterinarian of the community.

No history of Tetonka Township would be complete without mention of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Noyes and neighbors who came from Madison, Wisconsin, Waunakee, Lodi, and Lake Mills. Mrs. Noyes was the mother of Robert, Sarah (Kingsley); George and Perry Towne, and of Ella (Akers) and Ed. All excepting Ed filed on land adjoining. Ed. and Perry Towne had a store in Ashton. Perry Towne moved to Downey, California, in the years 1885-95.

The Noyes home was always open to the neighbors; they held dancing parties and box socials. They had a music box which fascinated me. At a Thanksgiving family dinner party I recall there were twenty-two present. Judson said if all of them had been there, there would have been thirty-three.

FRONTIER GROUPS

Chapter Seven

(A.) Railroads
(B.) Organizations

The first railroad to enter and operate in Dakota Territory was the Dakota Southern from Sioux City, Iowa to Yankton. The road was completed in 1873. At the same time another road was approaching Dakota from the East. A division of the Chicago & Northwestern line had secured a land grant as far as Watertown, Dakota. The roadbed had been built as far as Gary, Dakota, in 1872. It reached Watertown in 1873, but the road was not used until 1878 because of the few people in the area.

The Chicago & Northwestern Railway was extended to Clark, Dakota, in 1881. From Clark to Redfield in 1882; and from Redfield to Faulkton in 1886. The railroad from Huron to Redfield was built in 1881 and extended to Ordway, Dakota.

Spink County has had several railroads: The Chicago and Northwestern from Huron to Aberdeen, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul from Aberdeen to Mitchell, the Chicago and Northwestern from Watertown to Pierre, the Chicago & Northwestern from Doland to Groton and the Minneapolis & St. Louis from Watertown through to the Missouri River.

The railroad towns of the County have been: Ashton, Athol, Conde Crandon, Doland, Duxbury, Frankfort, Gallup, Hitchcock, Mansfield, Mellette, Northville, Redfield, Spotswood, Tulare, and Turton.

Plans of the railroads building in the county were altered to accommodate the reservation proposed for Chief Drifting Goose and his band. This meant that instead of building from Huron directly north, thus bisecting the county, the Northwestern Railway Company was forced to build about ten miles west of the originally planned right-of-way.

When President Hayes reversed his order, and Drifting Goose went to Crow Creek, homesteaders were permitted to come to the former reservation area and the Milwaukee Railway built its road south from Aberdeen between the Northwestern Company road and the James River in the very area the Northwestern company had originally planned to occupy.

On the Milwaukee line the road was first built south from Aberdeen to Ashton, the first train arriving there, September 19, 1881.

The Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, at one time known as the Dakota Railway, reached Redfield in 1882. Work on this segment continued north to Ordway in 1881; to Columbia in 1882. The line east of Redfield to Watertown was built in 1882 and from Redfield to Faulkton in 1886.

During the summer of 1880 there were numerous grading crews working in the Redfield area. Redfield was designated as a subdivision point, where train crews terminated and "tied up" for rest. Many train and engine men established homes in Redfield. At one time there were five passenger crews living in Redfield. A crew consisted of a conductor, two brakemen, baggageman, an engineer, and a fireman, and a United States Mail Clerk. There were twelve way-freight crews consisting of five men each. It is said that two hundred fifty railroad men lived in Redfield at one time.

The passenger depot maintained twenty-four hour service with three operators and ticket agents, two baggage-men, and two car inspectors checking all arriving and departing trains. Seven men were employed in the freight-house. Twenty-five to twenty-seven men worked on the rip track repairing cars. Two switch crews did the Redfield switching and making up of trains. Four section crews worked in and out of Redfield in four directions.

Fifty years ago Redfield was noted as the railroad metropolis in Spink County. Excellent passenger service was maintained, from the pioneer days through the early twenties. Most of the passenger trains operating through Redfield consisted of a mail car, baggage car, and in some trains an express car, two day-coaches, a smoker, and pullman cars. There were four passenger trains daily, two each way north and south, four daily east, two each way; one passenger and one mixed train west and return daily, one mixed train operating between Redfield, Doland and Groton and return six days a week. One could get on a pullman car at Redfield in the evening and arrive in Omaha in the morning. The same service applied to St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Redfield was a transfer point for passengers, making connections in four directions. It was not uncommon to see twenty-five to one hundred people change trains. Baggage, of course, was also transferred, and three and four double-deck trucks loaded with cream were transferred daily.

The old passenger depot did not have a lunch room; however, there was a restaurant midway between the passenger depot and the Foster Hotel which did a "land office business" when trains arrived.

About 1910 the railway company built four miles of side track east of Redfield so that they might repair box cars in that location. More than one hundred men were hired at good wages. The round-house, too, was a busy place in 1910, where more than thirty-five men were employed. They repaired and cleaned the engines which passed through Redfield.

In 1914, the new passenger depot was completed with all the latest architectural designs. It had a ladies' waiting room, with a matron on duty, men's waiting room, beautiful restaurant and lunch counter, baggage room and express room.

Freight trains were operating in and out of Redfield on a twenty-four hour schedule; way-freights handling freight and doing station switching daily, except Sundays, in four directions; one crew leaving and another arriving. Time freights handling "through" cars were also scheduled in time tables. Extra freights handling solid oil trains were operating through Redfield from the south to Aberdeen and Oakes, North Dakota. Redfield was considered one of the busiest subdivision stations on the Dakota Division.

There were so many Scandinavians employed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway in Redfield, it was sometimes called the Chicago & Norwegian Railway.

Miles of tracks have been torn up through the years in the Redfield yards. The south yard which at one time consisted of three storage tracks with a fifty-car capacity has been eliminated, together with the coal chutes, round-house and many other buildings.

Freight trains in the early days consisted of thirty to thirty-five cars with a locomotive weighing less than forty tons as compared with the present-day modern Diesels, weighing 450 tons and pulling 150 or more cars.

Railroad expansion in this area has been due largely to the foresight of Mr. Marvin Hughitt, the President of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. He made a personal inspection of the Dakota prairies and concluded that it was good business to extend the railroads as an inducement to business. Posters were distributed reading: "2,000,000 farms of fertile prairie land to be had free." Other signs read: "30,000,000 acres of most productive grain lands in the world." This started the influx of claim seekers, and emigrant cars rolling into every county in the state. Spink County had its share of emigrants who as well as the railroads had many hardships to bear.

After some of the three-day blizzards, traffic was "tied up" for days until the railroad plowed out all of the lines. Following some of the "blows," snow drifts were piled across tracks in the cities and towns to a depth of five or ten feet. In some cases the snow was packed hard and was frozen so that rotarys had to be brought into action. Snowplows were stationed at all Division and Subdivision points in readiness.

After one such three day "blow" at Athol, Dakota, there was a long drift nearly five feet high south of the depot, and several drifts north of it eight to ten feet in height. Whenever a snowplow was ordered out, and if there were drifts around the depots, the agents were notified to board up the depot windows. In this instance, the windows on the east and south were boarded up since the waiting room door was on the south. As the snow plow had been reported out of Redfield, the waiting room was packed beyond standing room with curious sight-seers who wanted to watch the plow hit the drifts. The train made better time than was expected, and one of the men opened the door at the wrong moment just as the plow whizzed by. A dozen men inside the station fell all over themselves, knocking down the waiting-room stove, and digging snow from their eyes, ears, pockets, collars. No one within the depot saw the plow go through the drift. It had "made" the curve north of town, before they could manage to "collect themselves.

Today Redfield is an intermediate railroad station with no trains "tieing up" or "making up." John Schaffer, the present agent, together with a line-man, and a few section crews, take care of the Chicago & Northwestern business. Frank Wagner, retired agent and his wife continue to make their home in Redfield. Mr. Wagner began his work in Redfield about 1905, and continued as agent to January 1, 1946.

Omar Wagner was passenger agent for a number of years as was also William Mattes. However, Mr. Barrows had the distinction of being the first Chicago & Northwestern Agent in Redfield.

Frank Summerside, retired conductor, and his family moved to Redfield from Huron in 1912 where Conductor Summerside had railroaded for years. Mr. and Mrs. Summerside are still living in Redfield. Mark Von

Wald, retired conductor and Mrs. Von Wald are also making their home in Redfield, the Von Walds having also moved to Redfield about 1912. Mr. Iver Larson, Executive Yard Master in Redfield many years ago, retired after serving for years in the Huron yards, and moved back to Redfield.

The following conductors, their wives and families have lived in Redfield at one time: With each conductor was an engineer, a fireman and brakeman. Among the conductors were: Harry Shirk; Tom Madden; Martin Redmond; William Chambers; John Cool; Frank Summerside; Bert Warner; James Travis; Peter Huss; Arthur Jennings; Vincent Ford; William Hart; Ray Brown; Lewis Lillibridge; W. G. Brown; Elmer Kelson; John Larson; Ben Mattes; Dan Behrens; Kenneth Sackett; Mark Von Wald, Fred Lehman; Claude Hinman; Carl Thompson; Lewis Bodine; Ed. Hittle; and R. N. Donahue.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, now the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railway, began construction work on the segment south of Aberdeen in 1881, and extended as far south as Ashton. In 1882 it was continued south through Redfield to Mitchell. The single track roads were ironed with 56 pound steel, as compared with 112 pound steel on the main lines now.

The first depot at Redfield was located east of the present site outside of the city limits because of a controversy with the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company relative to right of way, crossing the Chicago & Northwestern Railway tracks for points south of Redfield. After right of way was established the depot was moved to its present site.

Fifty years ago Spink County and Redfield people enjoyed two modern passenger trains each way daily on the Chicago & Milwaukee line, one south bound in the morning and evening and returning on a later schedule daily, making connections east and west at Aberdeen, Mitchell and points south through Yankton, Vermillion and Sioux City.

The Redfield depot was a busy spot at train time, loading passengers, baggage, and United States mail. Twenty-four hour service was maintained for many years at the depot with Mr. Dean Ayers as agent assisted by two operators. Two-way freights operated between Aberdeen and Mitchell, together with time freights handling car “through” loads, including an extra to take care of the overflow. A thirty car train was considered tonnage train.

Thousands of settlers flocked to the Dakotas, in the summer and fall of 1880-1881-1882. They settled along the lines of railroads, if at all possible, depending upon trains for food, fuel and building materials.

In the fall of 1880 Dakota Territory endured one of the worst winters on record. More than fourteen feet of snow fell, beginning on the night of October 15th, with very little respite until May 5, 1881. The railroads had to keep the lines open or the settlers would have perished. Snowplows were operating day and night, and hundreds of men were employed to assist in the cuts.

The Milwaukee Railway had its share of snow trouble, as well as washouts during the spring of the year. In the spring of 1897, the James River was a mile wide two miles south of Ashton and flooded the Milwaukee tracks resulting in the cancellation of trains for days.

The “new frontier’ ’in railroading was achieved during the eighteen-eighties in Dakota. This great enterprise – the lifeline of the nation – has practically vanished. Nevertheless, the railroads, aided by other forms of transportation, have completed the most magnificent job any transportation system has ever been or is ever likely to be called upon to perform. Hauling freight and passengers has been the most important business since governments began, and it was fast transportation and instant communication across the whole continent, which made the United States of America a great nation.

FRONTIER GROUPS

DEGREE OF HONOR PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

Redfield Lodge No. 50 of the Degree of Honor Protective Association was instituted April 30, 1896, at Redfield, and the Charter Members were. Anna A. Walsh, Mary Barwell, Emma Kemmerer, Etta Kaeppler, Lena Henrickson, Sibbie Emery, Lettie Slocum, Vena Doyan, Louise Kuehn, and H. C. Walsh.

It is a strong National Fraternal Life Insurance organization with all popular plans of insurance available for the whole family. The headquarters are at St. Paul, Minnesota.

The lodge is a meeting place of friends and the officers are trained for leadership in lodge, church and community. The organization has assisted many students, by creating educational loans and scholarships, and has also given assistance to aged and destitute members.

The Junior Department was added on December 2, 1927. The junior clubs are a training center for children.

Spink County has another Degree of Honor Lodge, the Mistletoe Lodge No. 102 which was organized in Doland, on May 8, 1900.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR IN SPINK COUNTY

A meeting was called in Redfield, South Dakota on September 5, 1892, at the residence of Mrs. W. W. Taylor to organize and to select officers for a chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. A petition was circulated by Mrs. Adelaide Bromley, with thirty-six names attached, presented and forwarded to the Grand Secretary, Mrs. A. M. McAllister, asking for a dispensation. Those present at the meeting were:

Miss Emilie McBride
Mrs. Laura Johnson
Mrs. Grace Taylor
Mrs. Sarah Luckey
Mrs. Lela Kutnewsky
Mrs. Ellen Powers
Miss. Fannie Powers
Miss Bertha Case
Miss Martha Kutnewsky
Dr. J. K. Kutnewsky
George F. Johnson

On October 26, 1892 a meeting was called for the purpose of instituting Redfield Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. Dr. J. K. Kutnewsky, having been appointed by letter of dispensation from George A. Pettigrew, Worthy Grand Patron of South Dakota, as Installing Officer, then proceeded to install the following:

Worthy Matron	Miss Emilie McBride
Worthy Patron	Dr. J. K. Kutnewsky
Associate Matron	Mrs. Adelaide Bromley
Secretary	Mr. B. H. Kutnewsky
Treasurer	Mr. C. H. Vinton
Conductress	Mrs. Lela Kutnewsky
Associate Conductress	Miss Fannie Powers
Adah	Miss Bertha Case
Ruth	Miss Grace Johnson
Esther	Mrs. Sarah Luckey
Martha	Mrs. Sabra Huston
Electa	Mrs. Martha Doyon
Warder	Mr. W. C. Case
Sentinel	Mr. T. E. Doyon

The Masonic Hall at this time was on the second floor of what was then known as the Greenman Building, now the west end of the Alonzo Chase Building.

The charter was granted May 24, 1893 with the following names inscribed thereon: Mrs. A. B. Anderson, Miss G. Johnson, Miss Fannie Powers, Mrs. G. F. Johnson, Miss Emilie McBride, Mrs. W. C. Case, Mrs. L. Kutnewsky, Mrs. N. P. Bromley, Mrs. E. Kutnewsky, Mr. A. B. Anderson, Mrs. J. S. Huston, Mrs. Sarah Luckey, Mrs. T. E. Doyon, Miss M. Kutnewsky, Mr. T. E. Doyon, W. C. Case, J. O. Powers, Tom Luckey, J. S. Huston, B. H. Kutnewsky, C. H. Vinton, C. F. Kutnewsky, George F. Johnson, Dr. J. K. Kutnewsky.

Grand Officers whose names appear on the Charter are:

Lurancy W. Norton	Grand Matron
Mary A. Brown	Associate Grand Matron
George A. Pettigrew	Grand Patron
Mrs. A. M. McAllister	Grand Secretary

At a special meeting on June 28, 1893 Alfred C. Poznznsky, Grand Patron being present, constituted Redfield Chapter No. 19, Order of the Eastern Star, and installed the Officers. The first petitions for the Degrees were received on November 28, 1893 and were as follows: Lydia A. Kiser, Dora E. Boardman, Julia Dawson, Ida M. Kiser, J. A. Kiser, C. N. Boardman, John T. Dawson and along with these were petitions with demits from A. I. Ouimet and Jane Ouimet of Orient Chapter No. 16, Livingston, Montana.

The tenth Annual Session of the Grand Chapter of South Dakota was entertained in Redfield on May 17-18, 1898. The Central House was being renovated, and added onto, so the Redfield folk opened their homes to the visiting guests. Very special guests were the Most Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Mary E. Partridge of California, our own Grand Chaplain of South Dakota, Mary E. Clark and also Mrs. Flora Adams Pattee Grand Matron of Minnesota. Candidates for Degrees for this meeting were Miss Caroline Riggs and J. A. Light. This session ended the first decade of the Order of the Eastern Star with forty-five Chapters in the state.

In 1908 plans were laid to build a new Masonic Temple. This was built and dedicated on July 4, 1910. In 1927 the total membership of Redfield Chapter was three hundred eleven. The chapter has been honored many times at Grand Chapter with elective and appointive officers and in the General Chapter three times by Evelyn B. Warne, Grand Matron of South Dakota in 1925, serving as Worthy Grand Martha in Denver, Colorado in 1928, as Chairman of Credential Committee in San Antonio, Texas in 1931, and as Worthy Grand Chaplain in San Francisco, California in 1940.

Members of Redfield Chapter who resided in Frankfort, South Dakota, withdrew their membership and organized Frankfort Chapter No. 120, Frankfort. This Chapter was constituted July 17, 1916, by Dr. Bertrand M. Hart, Grand Patron. He was assisted by members of Redfield Chapter No. 19, Redfield as follows: Mary E. Clarke, as Grand Installing Officer. Mary Lawrie as Grand Marshall, Nellie Marmon as Associate Grand Matron, and Evelyn B. Warne as Grand Secretary.

Frankfort Officers were:

Jessie M. Bunnell	Worthy Matron
Henry M. Motley	Worthy Patron
Lillian Butler	Associate Matron
Viola J. Aldred	Secretary

Members of Redfield Chapter who resided in Tulare, South Dakota, withdrew their membership and organized Oasis Chapter No. 148, Tulare. This Chapter was constituted October 26, 1922 by W. A. Morris, Past Grand Patron. Tulare officers were:

Sibyl I. E. Risbeck	Worthy Matron
Dr. C. A. Seeman	Worthy Patron
Rose E. Foglesong	Secretary

Spink County has nine(9) Chapters, Order of Eastern Star, all active and prosperous, with a total membership of 846 listed in 1960 as follows: Redfield No. 19, Redfield; Ashton No. 36, Ashton; Ashler No. 42, Mellette; Corona No. 87, Doland; Northville No. 99, Northville; Bethel No. 102, Conde; Frankfort No. 120, Frankfort; Brentford No. 125, Brentford; Oasis No. 148, Tulare.

Ashler Chapter No. 42, Mellette, was constituted January 4, 1898 by J. S. Perriton, Deputy Grand Patron acting for George W. Snow, Worthy Grand Patron, and Mrs. A. M. McAllister acting Grand Secretary. About twenty members from Ashton Chapter, including Frankie Watkins, went along to Mellette to be of assistance.

Corona Chapter No. 87, Doland was constituted May 9, 1908 by W. A. Morris, Past Grand Patron. He was assisted by Sarah B. Senechal as Worthy Matron and Bertha Light as Secretary. About twenty-five members from Redfield attended.

Ashton Chapter No. 36, Ashton, was constituted July 12, 1897 by George F. Johnson as Deputy for George Snow, Worthy Patron and Jeanette Herreid, Worthy Grand Matron.

Northville Chapter No. 99, Northville, was constituted April 13, 1910 by W. A. Morris acting as deputy for Herbert S. Fletcher, Worthy Grand Patron. Worthy Matron was Margaret Mather, Worthy Patron, James A. Piercy, and Associate Matron Esther M. Reddout.

Bethel Chapter No. 102, Conde, was constituted by Robert M. McCaughey, Grand Patron, Kate Foster, Worthy Matron and I. D. Marlyn, Secretary.

Brentford Chapter No. 125, Brentford, was constituted by Dr. Bertrand M. Hart, Worthy Grand Patron, assisted by Elsie Hamilton, District Deputy Grand Matron acting for installing officer, with Eleanor Estey as Worthy Matron, W. P. Buck as Worthy Patron, Jennie Mann as Associate Matron, and Fred B. Mann as Secretary.

When Redfield College suspended at the time of the consolidation with Yankton College, the City of Redfield came into possession of two College Buildings and eight acres of campus. Conception of the State Home for the aged members of the Order of Eastern Star, to be established in Redfield, is credited to Mrs. Evelyn B. Warne, of Redfield, Past Grand Matron, and, thru her negotiations with Redfield officials, she was given a proposal from the City of Redfield to present to the Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, in session at Aberdeen. The Grand Chapter in session accepted the proposal of this property as a gift from the City of Redfield, in which to establish an Eastern Star Home. The money on hand was used for remodeling, renovating, and enlarging the main building. The Grand Chapter in session at Huron in 1935 came by special train and conducted the dedication ceremonies. Mrs. Frances Haun, of Milan, Tennessee, Most Worthy Grand Matron of the General Grand Chapter of the World, officially dedicated the Home, with local and State Chapters participating in the ceremony. The Home to date has cared for eighty-two aged members. The Eastern Star Home now stands as one of the City's proud possessions.

HISTORY OF COMPANY "G".

(By John Andersen)

This is the story of the organization and development of Company "G", 196th Infantry Regiment. On February 28, 1947 Company "G" became a reality in the community of Redfield, South Dakota, with the appointment of Captain Robert E. Hassell as commanding officer, and Wendell Knapp commissioned as Second Lieutenant. The appointment of officers having been made, Edward W. Dosch started the body of the company by being the first man to enlist. By the end of 1947 there were two officers and 42 enlisted men in the company.

Company "G" acquired the basement of the Court House at Redfield, as an armory and it remained the headquarters until activation on September 1, 1950. There was no summer camp held in 1947, but in June, 1948, Company "G" moved to Camp Rapid, South Dakota, for two weeks of training. At this time, the strength of the company was two officers, nine sergeants, three corporals, eighteen privates first class, and forty-five privates.

The next summer camp attended was at Camp Ripley, Minnesota, in June, 1949. Meantime, Company "G" gained another officer, 2nd Lt. John Andersen, and 2nd Lt. Wendell Knapp had received his first lieutenant's bar. The strength of the company was then three officers and sixty-nine enlisted men.

The 1950 summer camp was held at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. The roster now read four officers and forty-eight enlisted men. This was affected by the commission of Karlton J. Peters, 2nd Lt., and the loss of twenty-one enlisted men through honorable discharge at the termination of their three year enlistment period.

During the middle of July and August, 1950, 2nd Lt. John Anderson, and Karlton J. Peters went to Ft. Benning, Georgia, to Officers Infantry School. While at school, Lt. Peters was transferred to Company "E", 196th Infantry Regiment.

On September 1, 1950, Company "G" was called to active service. 1st Lt. Wendell E. Knapp was made 2nd Battalion S-4. He was replaced by 1st Lt. Richmond W. Noble, and the company also added WOJG Azor M. Dewell as unit administrator.

On September 7, 1950, the nucleus of Company "G" which was five officers and fifty-seven enlisted men, departed for Camp Carson, Colorado. As Camp Carson had not been in use for approximately five years, the first few weeks were spent in general cleanup. Twenty-one enlisted men were then selected to attend Cadre School on the Post to prepare to give classes to incoming men.

On November 8 and 9, 1950, Company "G" received its first shipment of 147 men. As soon as they were assigned to their squads and platoons, they started basic training.

Lt. William L. Recklinghausen, who was assigned to the company on October 23, 1950, was Platoon Leader of the first platoon. 2nd Lt. Schoonover, who came to the company March 6, 1951, was third platoon leader, and 2nd Lt. John Andersen was assigned second platoon leader, after returning from Ft. Benning Infantry School on November 27, 1950. M/Sgt. John W. Bettridge, one of a few Enlisted Reserves assigned to the company, was placed in charge of the weapons platoon.

At Christmas time, 1950, and New Years, 1951, all of the men in the company were given a chance to have a five-day furlough. One of the first men to leave the original Company "G" was Sgt. Clayton Hufteling, who transferred to Headquarters Company to be the Sgt. in charge of the I & E Office. Cpl. Carol W. Schmidt transferred to Service Company to be a truck driver. Sgt. Robert Gates transferred to Hq. Co., 2nd battalion, where he is the battalion sergeant major.

During the last two weeks of April, 1951, one officer and eighteen enlisted men attended mountain training. On April 23, 1951 sixteen men left for Ft. Benning, Georgia, for shipment overseas with the 4th Infantry Division.

On September 1st, 1952, the National Guard of South Dakota reorganized Company "G", 2nd Battalion, 196 RCT. Captain Richmond Noble was appointed company commander, 1st Lt. Wendell Knapp as executive officer, and Lt. John C. Andersen, as platoon LDR.

In March, 1953, 1st Lt. Wendell E. Knapp resigned his commission to accept employment as unit Administrator as a Warrant Officer.

Our first camp period after reorganization was in 1953 at Camp Ripley, Little Falls, Minnesota. The training began on June 13, and we returned home on June 27th. As this was our first training camp it was very interesting for the men learning their new jobs on the training areas of Camp Ripley.

The following year: 1954, Company "G" convoyed to Camp Ripley, Minnesota. We left home June 5, and we returned to our home station on June 19. It was an eventful summer camp for all of us. As this was our second year at camp, it was a chance for the men to show what they had learned at their home station.

M/Sgt. Willard Weiss was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in March of 1954, and M/Sgt. Bill Dosch received his 2nd Lt. officers commission in June of the same year.

In 1955 under the command of 1st Lt. John C. Andersen, Company "G" departed for Camp Ripley, Minnesota. Early Saturday morning, August 13th we left Redfield by convoy. During the past camp periods the weather had been with us. On one night while at camp it rained so hard and so much that the water was level with the curbs along the road, and the curbs were a good six inches high. Accompanying the rain was a high wind, about 50 - 60 miles per hour, and it blew a tent from the moorings and the men that were in there "got soaked". It also was rather cool that year at camp as camp was in the fall. We returned home from camp on August 28th.

In February, 1956, Lt. Andersen was promoted to Captain and this year the company embarked to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, which was a big event. It was again an eventful camp period. On Saturday the SDNG held a Review Parade for the governor and officers of the SDNG. On the parade grounds, Sgt. Bill Bacon was awarded a trophy from the 2nd Battalion for the "Best Soldier of the Year." for the year 1955. Company "G" was awarded a trophy for the "Best Company" of 2nd Battalion for the year 1955.

We were told that the unit was to be reorganized as either an Engineering Unit or a Field Artillery Battery. So the entire two weeks were spent going to the different classes on Engineers and on Artillery FDC, Survey, Communications, Gun Crews, and different phases of construction of roads, bridges, etc. At the end of the two weeks we knew something about both operations. We returned home on June 16th.

In March of 1957, 2nd Lt. Willard Weiss was promoted to 1st Lt. In April of the same year, SFC Ronald Tennill was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the SDNG.

On September 15, 1956 we were officially reorganized. The Redfield unit under the command of Capt. John Andersen was to be HQ & HQ Battery, 642nd. FA Bn., 147 Group with Batteries in Aberdeen, Miller, Pierre and Redfield. We were to be equipped with "8" Howitzers towed by 10 ton trucks. As HQ Battery we received numerous pieces of equipment for Communications, Fire Direction Center, Survey, Motor, Cook Equipment, Personnel, and Supply.

In 1957, we went back to Camp Ripley, Minnesota, but this time we went as HQ & HQ Battery of the 642nd, FA Battalion, 147 FA Group. In a way, this camp period was to be a new experience for all of us, as this was our first time at Field Artillery. We left home August 25 and we returned home September 8. As it turned out, it was a very exciting time for the battery, learning our new jobs. The first week we attended classes pertaining to the operation of a FA Battalion. During the second week, we went to the field for practical application. It gave us a fine chance to work with the Howitzers and learn the operation first hand.

In 1958 we went to our first encampment at Camp Guernsey, Guernsey, Wyoming. We left early Saturday morning, August 9th, and we returned home August 24th. After a year of learning and practicing at our home station, we went to Camp Guernsey ready to put our learning to the test.

On August 2, 1958, Sgts. Bill Badger, Bill Bacon and Marvin Marlette received their commissions as 2nd Lt. in the SDNG. They were the first OCS candidates to be commissioned.

In 1959 we left home on August 15th, for Camp Guernsey. It was again an eventful year for the whole Battalion. Group Headquarters conducted battery tests for the Battalion to see where we needed the most training. The second week we went out in the field for three days and two nights. The different units of the battalion were set up on two different positions to get training on "Moving Up," "Setting Up," and "Moving Out." When August 28th rolled around, we were ready to move out for home and arrived on Sunday, August 30th.

On October 21, 1959, we were again reorganized, from HQ & HQ Battery to Battery C 3rd How. Bn., 147th Artillery. We then were equipped with 155 mm Howitzers towed by five ton trucks. So now going to camp in 1959 would be something new to us as we now were firing battery, with new jobs, but we had a very good bunch of men and we could tackle anything and be able to do a good job.

With the 1959 camp under our belts we worked hard in improving our proficiency in the arts of Artillerymen. Sgt. Clifford Hagen and Spec. James Nelson were commissioned via the two year O.C.S. campaign and were ready to embark to Camp Guernsey, as Btry C. Survey Officer and Fire Directive Officer, respectively.

After a long 500 mile Motor March to Camp Guernsey, in August, of 1960, our unit did well and earned a letter of commendation from Group Commander, Col. Henry Smith. This letter is as follows:

"Headquarters 147th Field Artillery Group, South Dakota Army National Guard, Pierre, South Dakota. 4 October 1960.

Subject: Letter of Commendation.
To: Commanding Officer
Btry C, 3rd How. Bn. 147Arty.
Redfield, South Dakota

"I take great pleasure and considerable pride in writing this letter commending the officers and men of Btry C, 3rd How Bn, 147th Arty, for their very outstanding achievement at ANACDUTRA 1960.

"Because this was your first year as a functional firing battery, your unit was notified that it would be excluded from battery tests administered to other units of the Artillery Group. It was surprising to note the immediate grumbling of discontent as your spirited organization unanimously disclaimed the right to special consideration and fought back to be tested in open competition with other units having upwards of four years training as firing batteries.

"Reluctantly, the umpire team and I, gave consent to this departure from experience. While we admired the spirit and competitive attitude of Battery C, we could foresee only disappointment in store for the unit.

"So it was with amazement and admiration that we watched this inexperienced firing battery confidently and purposefully move into positions and rival scores achieved by other units who should have far outstripped your stubborn battery.

"On a comparative basis, your final scores were in the upper one-third of the Group totals, an outstanding accomplishment when everything is considered and one of which the officers and men of Battery C can be justifiably proud.

"Therefore it is my pleasure to commend the officers and men of Battery C, 3rd How Bn for an improbable expectation masterfully achieved.

HENRY A. SMITH, JR.,
Colonel, Artillery, SDARNG
Commanding"

As this portion of our history is being written, an announcement in the Redfield Press reports that Major Robert E. Hassell has just been appointed S-2 for the 147 FA Group, and Lt. Willard Weiss has been transferred to Wisconsin.

At the present time, C Battery is preparing for its 1961 camp which will be held for the first time in the Badlands of South Dakota.

SHORT HISTORY OF GEORGE H. THOMAS POST NO. 5 G.A.R.

This Post was organized at Redfield, Territory of Dakota, and charter was issued in 1883.

The first officers of the Post, of which there is any record, were those who were elected April 23, 1883 and the list is as follows: D. N. Hunt, Commander; John J. Hough, S.V.C.; George F. Johnson, J.V.C.; A. J. Maurey, Sergeant; Richard McConnell, Chaplain; S. F. Hammond, Quarter Master; H. P. Packard, Officer of the Day; H. C. Rising, Adjutant.

The records of the Post are rather fragmentary, and it is with considerable difficulty that we piece them together, and we are not sure who were the charter members of this Post, but we think we will be able to give a complete membership of this Post.

On February 27, 1884 D. N. Hunt was re-elected Commander. The first particular item of interest was on August 6, 1884. It appears that one of the representatives to the National Encampment at Minneapolis in July of that year was George F. Johnson, and in getting off the street car he was knocked down and run over by another street car and lost a leg, and the members attending the encampment very generously raised a purse for him, and at the meeting of the local post expressions of sympathy were extended to Mr. Johnson, and his family, and a vote of thanks sent to the Minneapolis Post and to the officers of the Grand Encampment.

The early history of the Post indicates that, because of the hard times, crop failures, and strained financial circumstances of many of the

Post members, it was with difficulty the Post was kept up, and frequently the records indicate that certain comrades, whether members of the Post or otherwise, were in dire need and sore distress and coal and provisions frequently furnished to such unfortunate comrades.

On December 2, 1885, H. G. Rising was elected Commander. On December 6, 1886, A. J. Maurey presented the Post with a flag and it is claimed that this was the first flag ever flown over the city of Redfield. On April 24, 1886, the minutes contained first mention of Memorial Day and calls for its observance.

On December 15, 1886 H. G. Rising was re-elected Commander. On May 28, 1887, a motion was made to observe Memorial Day and decorate the grave of Comrade J. J. Hagman. I am inclined to think that he was perhaps the first member of the Post to be buried in the Redfield cemetery.

On December 7, 1887 H. P. Packard was elected Commander. On January 5, 1889, J. M. Beidelman was elected Commander, and on December 4, 1889, J. E. Underhill was elected Commander, and he continued to act until March 5, 1891, when he resigned and J. A. Moore was elected as Commander in his place. On December 1, 1891, F. A. Basford was elected Commander for the ensuing year and on March 3, 1892, he was re-elected.

On April 1, 1893, George F. Johnson was elected Commander, when F. A. Basford resigned. On December 23, 1893 George F. Johnson was re-elected Commander.

On January 18, 1895, J. K. Basford was elected Commander. At that time, steps were taken to organize a Sons of Veterans Camp. On December 19, 1895, D. N. Hunt again was elected Commander, and he was re-elected December 18, 1896.

On December 9, 1897, Ed. Cudworth was elected Commander. On December 21, 1899, C. E. Bostwick was elected Commander. On December 14, 1900 R. O. Thayer was elected Commander. On December 26, 1901 J. M. Beidelman was elected Commander. On March 6, 1907 R. O. Thayer was elected Commander. On December 24, 1907, H. P. Packard was elected Commander. On October 21, 1907, H. P. Packard was re-elected Commander. On October 27, 1909, M. D. Wheeler was elected Commander.

On January 10, 1910, M. D. Wheeler was re-elected Commander. On October 19, 1910, M. D. Wheeler was re-elected for the third year. On December 20, 1911, A. F. Clark was elected Commander. On December 18, 1912 John Mannings was elected Commander. On December 17, 1913, John Mannings was re-elected for the third year. On January 17, 1917 Joel Beckner was elected Commander. On October 16, 1918, J. K. Basford was elected Commander. On December 16, 1919, J. K. Basford was re-elected Commander. On April 21, 1920, J. K. Basford was re-elected Commander. On January 4, 1921, John Mannings was elected Commander. On January 6, 1922, Edward Barnes was elected Commander.

Whether Edward Barnes was the last elected Commander or not, the records do not show. Levi Van Voorhis, a surviving member of the Post was acting Commander at the Post at that time. He was also affiliated with the Post at Huron.

The State Encampment was held at Redfield on two or three different occasions, once in the early days and the last time was in May, 1922, at which time the Veterans had such a good time that they wanted to come back again the next year.

Many members of this Post have from time to time held rather prominent positions in the city of Redfield, Spink County, and some in the State of South Dakota. Perhaps we cannot mention them all, but, so far as memory will permit, they are as follows. J. M. Beidleman, County Auditor; Ed. Borwell, County Auditor; Edward Barnes, County Judge; Augustus Bruell, County Commissioner; James Colledge, Register of Deeds; D. N. Hunt, County Commissioner; and Mayor of Redfield; J. S. Huston, Adjutant General of Dakota; D. S. Hooper, County Judge; J. C. Hurst, Sheriff; S. F. Hammond, Register of Deeds; George F. Johnson, Register of Deeds; C. J. Lane, County Coroner; J. E. Labrie, Jr., County Commissioner; J. A. Moore, Sheriff; A. C. Mellette, Territorial Governor; H. P. Packard, Legislator, Mayor of Redfield, and Member of the Board of Charities and Corrections; W. B. Price, Legislator; F. E. Wallar, County Assessor.

This sketch would not be complete without a roster of the members of the Post, and it is rather difficult to complete such a roster at this time. However, from all of the records we can gather, the following individuals were either members of the G.A.R. or, at any rate, were honorably discharged soldiers of the Civil War and we have arranged these in alphabetical order.

J. H. Althouse,
Joe Abris
S. B. Adams
Ackley
J. K. Basford
Fred A. Basford
J. M. Beidleman
Nicholas Balsiger
Fred Behrens
Ed. Borwell
J. Bornhart
C. E. Bostwick
J. Bellows
F. C. Backer
O. A. Babcock
M. C. Bailey
Joel Beckner
L. J. Bancroft
Edward Barnes
Augustus Bruell
E. H. Babcock
George E. Bent
Charles H. Baker
J. M. Boyd
J. A. Barrows
Wm. Buckley
Myron Bates
W. D. Beebe
James Colledge
Ed Cudworth
A. F. Clark
N. W. Clark
S. G. Cole
F. G. Gordes
David Chase
N. P. Case
F. C. Case
F. D. Carter
E. M. Crabs
C. H. Dwyer
Daniel Deifendofer
L. V. Dickens
Dyer Ellis
Elander Exline
Joseph Fogelson
Wm. Gallup
John Gibbons
D. N. Hunt
A. J. Howe
Frederick Hines
J. S. Houston
D. S. Hooper
H. J. Howard
John C. Hurst
M. D. Holcomb
John J. Hagman
John J. Hough
S. F. Hammond
August Hermann
Henry Herrick
Mathias S. Hartman
C. P. Harmon
Patrick Herron
J. M. Howard
George F. Johnson
Franklin Jones
John A. Jackson
John W. Johnson
Franklin J. Jarvis
John J. Kelley
Henry Kurtz
A. Kent
Herbert M. King
J. A. Kelley
Charles Knowlton
Clark C. Kenyon
Thomas Lambert
H. H. Lockwood
C. J. Lane
Joe E. Labrie, Jr.
Bernard Lapps

O. F. Miller
J. A. Moore
Fred Miller
John Mannings
Julius Mathwig
R. F. Matheny
Charles Mattusch
D. R. Miller
A. J. Maurey
R. McConnell
A. G. Mellette
Robert Merrick
W. W. McNulty
L. D. Mills
Ezra L. Mapes
B. F. McDonald
Marlette
O. S. Miller
Nels Nelson
W. A. Odell
H. P. Packard
Albert Pohl
Harvey Payne
Wm. Plackett
Horace Perry
W. P. Price
Henry Platte
J. M. Potts
J. S. Perriton
J. J. Pillen
J. E. Parmelee
Andrew Reinerson
James Rollins
H. G. Rising
Wm. Reed
F. M. Schaffer
H. W. Stowe
John Schoonover
O. A. Sisson
Peter Schweitzer
Nelson R. Satterlee
S. D. Sampson
J. W. Switzer
R. O. Thayer
Ernest Thiede
LaFayette Van Ornum
Levi Van Voorhis
J. T. Vinnedge
George H. Ward
M. D. Wheeler
E. H. Williams
F. E. Wallar
Henry Williams
Rufus Warren
Horace Wandell

A few of the members of the Post perhaps should have special mention as to some of their war experiences. Comrade John Mannings received an injury in the leg and a bayonet in his right shoulder at Antietam, and the first Battle of Bull Run. He was a member of the famous Minnesota Company that withstood that terrific charge at Bull Run.

E. H. Williams received an injury in the groin and thigh at Shiloh and Vicksburg. Augustus Bruell was in a gunboat at the siege at Vicksburg, and the boat was sunk and the men only escaped by swimming to shore.

N. W. Clark received several injuries which left him partially incapacitated, which injuries he carried to his grave.

R. F. Matheny was quite severely wounded in his left knee.

In closing these remarks, may it not be appropriate for one to say who is not a member of this valiant order of the Grand Army of the Republic, that these men not only won full honors in fighting for their country, during the Civil War, but these particular men again took up the work after peace was declared and came out to a veritable wilderness and commenced the battle of the pioneer to subdue the wilderness and make it a fit habitation for human kind, and how well they succeeded is demonstrated again and again by the towns and villages and thriving farms scattered all about our broad plains. The work which these men so nobly commenced and valiantly carried out for so many years must now be taken up by their descendants.

REDFIELD COUNCIL NO. 2703 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Redfield Council No. 2703 Knights of Columbus was instituted on January 13, 1929, with a charter membership of sixty-four. Henry A. Bauer was elected the first Grand Knight and he held office for three months when Frank Lang was elected for the year 1929-1930.

The following headed the Council as Grand Knights through the years: Peter J. Miesen, 1930-31-45-47; H. S. Ivie, 1931-32; Peter J. McCoy 1932-33; Ed. J. Gebhart, 1933-34; Louis Roos 1934-35; John Dangel 1935-36-37; Thomas V. McDermott 1937-38-39-40-41; N. Pete Iten 1941-42-43; Ray B. Fleming 1946-47-48; Lyle Giesen 1948-49-50; Peter Miesen, Jr., 1950-51; Herb Bowar 1951-52-53; Leonard Mullaney 1953-54-55; Joe Coyle 1955-56-57; George White 1957-58; and John Roeber 1959-60.

When the Council was first started it took in the towns of Zell, Orient, Polo, Miller, Faulkton, Athol, Tulare and Frankfort. In 1957 the Council was split up and new Councils were instituted at Faulkton, Polo, and Miller, and at that time the Redfield Council lost two thirds of its membership by transfer to those new Councils.

In 1939 the State Convention of the Order was held in Redfield. During World War II, the Council lost eight members who were killed in action.

ASHTON LODGE NO. 33, A. F. & A. M.

"Between 1875 and 1889 the first Masonic Lodge in Spink County, Dakota Territory, was started in 1882. The excellent farm land along the James River and the prospect that Ashton would be the permanent county seat of Spink County attracted many to migrate to his communiy in the early eighties. Among them were many Masons. These came from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Michigan, Iillinois, Indiana, Georgia, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, and other states.

"In 1882 a call was made for all Masons interested in organizing a local Lodge to meet in Dean and H. hall on June 26, 1882. Evidently eight Brothers responded. The following is a copy of the minutes of that meeting.

" 'Ashton, Spink County D. T., June 26, 1882. The brethren taking part in the institution of Ashton Lodge A. F. & A. M., met in Dean and H. hall. Brother Woolley called the meeting to order and nominated J. S. Perriton for chairman, who was duly elected and took the chair. Brother B. R. Hawley was chosen secretary. The following officers of Ashton Lodge were then elected: W. M., Bro. John S. Perriton; S. W., Bro. J. H. Allen; J. W., Bro. C. V. Carrier; Treas., Bro. C. W. Andrews; Secy., Bro. B. R. Hawley.

On motion, the W. M. and Wardens were elected Trustees of the Lodge. The Secretary was instructed to obtain a price list of Lodge supplies from G. F. Foster & Sons of Chicago.

The following appointments were made: S. D., Bro. J. T. Woolley; J. D., Bro. Ira Bowman; Tyler, Bro. E. F. Beaumont.

No further business appearing, the meeting was closed. B. R. Hawley, Secy."

And so these eight Brother Masons who answered the call to organize a Masonic Lodge in Ashton, Spink County, Dakota Territory, became the first officers of Ashton Lodge No. 33, and incidentally, the first Masonic Lodge in Spink County.

The first regular meeting was held on August 5, 1882. At the second regular meeting, on August 19, 1882, the application of Samuel

P. Watkins was received. He was the first to receive his degrees in Ashton Lodge, and later became W. M. and still later was Grand Treasurer in 1893.

The Dean and H. hall was used by both the Masons and I.O.O.F. for many years. On April 30, 1898, the Rogers building was purchased by the Masons and has been their home since. The new hall was dedicated on February 22, 1900, and it has since been remodeled."

Here is a list of the Worshipful Masters of Ashton Lodge No. 33, A. F. & A. M.:

1882-1883	John S. Perriton
1884	M. H. Kelley
1885	J. T. Woolley
1886	Ira C. Adams
1887	Ira Bowman
1888	J. T. Woolley
1889	S. F. Hammond
1890	F. P. Brooks
1891-1895	S. P. Watkins
1896	Dr. D. Anderson
1897-1898	J. G. Bullen
1899-1900	E. V. Sheetz
1901-	C. F. Graves
1902	R. A. Hammond
1903-1904	G. M. Rhoades
1905-1906	S. P. Watkins
1907-1908	E. N. Graves
1909	J. S. McIntyre
1910	F. C. Ramser
1911	Evan Roberts
1912-1913	F. W. Hawkins
1914	M. R. Bash
1915	E. N. Graves
1916	W. H. Holcomb
1917	Albert Young
1918-1919	Harry M. Wilson
1920	Henry G. Reasoner
1921	E. C. Bloomhall
1922	Jens Jensen
1923	C. R. Willson
1924	B. F. Stover
1925-1926	G. R. Boyer
1927	E. J. Morrisy
1928-1929	Carl Christiansen
1930-1931	E. E. Kish
1932	H. J. Noren
1933-1934	H. A. Rhoades
1935	H. A. Weiland
1936	R. L. Marlette
1937	H. R. Boyer
1938	V. K. Boyer
1939	Robert Prindle
1940	H. J. Noren
1941	Garrett Bymers
1942	R. I. Bacon
1943	J. E. Lewis
1944	Harrow Brown
1945	Charles Bormann
1946	Garrett Bymers
1947	Carl Rholffs
1948-1950	H. A. Rhoades
1951	H. J. Noren
1952	Ray E. Kish
1953	Martin Christiansen
1954	E. A. Williams
1955	John Sondergard
1956	Garfield Christensen
1957	Ralph Bloomhall
1958	H. J. Noren
1959	E. A. Williams
1960	Walter Eldredge
1961	Arthur G. Aaker

BRENTFORD LODGE NO. 176 A. F. & A. M.

This lodge was organized June 11, 1913. The following were the charter members: W. P. Buck, E. G. Bohl, R. C. Styles, Wm. McLain, F. E. Wallar, Bian A. Estey, Fred B. Mann, Lloyd R. Kettering, George A. Mann, John B. Kettering, F. G. Haven, E. P. Overby, Martin C. Overby, Geo. H. Frazier, W. E. Wallar.

Officers: Brother Bian A. Estey, Worshipful Master; Brother Fred B. Mann, Senior Warden; Brother Reuben C. Styles, Junior Warden; Brother Emil G. Bohl, Treasurer; Brother William P. Buck, Secretary; Brother Lloyd R. Kettering, Senior Deacon; Brother Frank E. Wallar, Junior Deacon; Brother George Frazier, Senior Steward; Brother Emil P. Overby, Junior Steward; Brother William McLain, Tyler.

CONDE LODGE NO. 134, A. F. & A. M.

Conde Lodge No. 134, A. F. & A. M. received its charter from the Grand Lodge in 1902. The Charter was issued June 11, 1902. Harry Grinolds was appointed Worshipful Master, James F. Higgins, Senior Warden, and William W. Rounds, Junior Warden.

In 1903, William W. Rounds was Worshipful Master, Dave Robertson, Senior Warden, and A. L. Gange, Junior Warden, Ed. Boswell, Secretary, M. J. Patterson, Senior Deacon, and Brown Hanson, Junior Deacon.

Meetings at this time were held in the hall over the drug store, later the old Baptist Church was purchased for the Lodge and was in use until destroyed by fire December 4, 1950. From that time until 1953 meetings were held in the basement of Municipal Building.

On October 27, 1952 it was decided to purchase the Randolph Church and move it to Conde. The lots for the location of the new building were donated by Dr. Mark F. Williams.

On November 24, 1953, the new Lodge Building was dedicated and the corner stone laid. Arthur E. Munch, Worthy Grand Master of Masons in South Dakota, gave the dedication ceremony.

DOLAND LODGE NO. 142, A. F. & A. M.

Doland Lodge No. 142 A. F. & A. M., held its first meeting on February 6, 1906, under dispensation from the then Most Worshipful Grand Master, R. H. McCaughey.

This Lodge received its charter from the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, on June 13, 1906. The first Worshipful Master was A. F. Senechal, who was Master from 1906 to 1910. R. W. Labrie was the first Senior Warden, and Ralph Fargo was the first Junior Warden. Our first Secretary was Joseph Garthwaite, and there were sixteen charter members of Doland Lodge No. 142, A. F. & A. M.

R. W. Labrie, our first Senior Warden, while it was not his desire to become Master in 1910, did accept that distinction in 1918, and in that year also served with the Armed Forces in France.

Doland Lodge has grown to be the third largest Lodge in Spink County, and to date two hundred five members have signed its by-laws.

The Lodge has produced two District Masters, S. T. Nash, and Herman Eierman.

The charter was destroyed in the 1913 fire of Doland, and a re-issue of the charter was made the following year.

FRANKFORT LODGE NO. 77, A. F. & A. M.

This Lodge was organized in 1885. The principal officers at the time of the organization were: E. W. Foster, W. M.; H. B. Cushman, S. W.; J. B. Wallbridge, J. W.; A. E. Smith, Secy.; J. R. Palmer, Treas.; Ira Ford,

S. D.; C. E. Childs, J. D.

The 1961 officers of the Frankfort Lodge No. 77, A. F. & A. M., are: Gordon E. Hansen, W. M.; Robert G. Freeburg, S. W.; Lloyd M. Hansen, J. W.; Glendon T. Frericks, Treas.; Thomas H. Torkelson, Secy.; Ray M. Robertson, S. D.; Harold E. Olson, J. D.; Harry J. Eisele, Sr. Steward; Lyle E. Crook, Jr. Steward; T. H. Weisflock, Chaplain; A. Allen Haskell, Tyler; Harvey L. Denison, Marshal.

MINUTES OF ORGANIZATION OF REDFIELD LODGE NO. 34

A. F. and A. M.

May 30th, 1882

Redfield, Dakota Territory.

A meeting of the members belonging to the Masonic Order, resident in Redfield, and vicinity, was held in D. R. Miller's office, for the purpose of organizing a Lodge.

There were present: John McKay, H. T. B. Bagge, Geo. Watkins, T. C. Weeks, D. R. Miller, A. Maroin, F. D. Carter, A. M. Townley, E. Pachaly, Alex Clark, N. Hunt.

Moved and seconded that N. Hunt be chairman of the meeting. Carried.

Moved and seconded that A. Clark act as secretary of meeting. Carried.

Moved and seconded that a committee be appointed to enquire what a hall could be had at per year. There were appointed D. R. Miller and A. Clark. Committee reported and stated that a hall could be had at One Hundred and Eighty Dollars per year, convenient for the said purpose, belonging to F. L. Hudson. Moved and seconded that the same hall be rented for one year. Carried. Secretary was also notified to inform F. L. Hudson that the members had accepted his proposition. Secretary did also notify him. Meeting adjourned until Tuesday, June 6th.

Alex Clark, Secretary

June 6th, 1882

Redfield, Dakota Territory.

The adjourned meeting was held of the Masonic Brethren in D. R. Miller's office to hear reports if any, and take all necessary steps to form a lodge.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved. E. W. Foster, Chairman.

Moved and seconded that D. R. Miller and Geo. Watkins be appointed to write L. J. Corbin to have him come here to give information of a lodge.

Present: E. W. Foster, P. H. Manroe, Geo. Watkins, A. Maroin, D. R. Miller, H. T. B. Bagge, F. Carter, W. Hall, D. McDonald, Geo. Johnson, E. Pachaly, A. Clark. Moved and seconded to adjourn subject to a call from the chairman.

Meeting adjourned.

Alex Clark, Secy.

June 13th, 1882

Redfield, Dakota Territory.

The adjourned meeting was held in D. R. Miller's office. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Huston was elected chairman of the meeting. Moved and seconded that the name of the lodge be "Redfield," which was unanimously agreed to. It was moved and seconded to elect a Master of the Lodge. D. R. Miller received ten votes, being a majority of all votes cast. He was unanimously elected.

Moved and seconded to elect a Senior Warden. Geo. Watkins received seven votes, being a majority of all the votes cast. He was unanimously elected. Moved and seconded to elect a Junior Warden. Alex Clark received eight votes, being a majority of all the votes cast. He was unanimously elected.

Meeting adjourned till Tuesday, 20th.

Alex Clark, Sec'y

Charter granted June 15th, 1883, by Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory.

The Masonic Temple on Main Street and Fifth Avenue was built in 1908.

The temple also has three other Masonic organizations which share the building: Redfield Chapter No. 20, Royal Arch Masons; Huston Commandery No. 22, Knights Templar, Redfield Chapter No. 19, Order of the Eastern Star.

The following brethren were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason prior to 1900, and have been members of Redfield Lodge No. 34, A. F. & A. M. continually since.

Name:	Date of Raising:	Present Address:
Geo. E. Watkins	1880	Los Angeles, Calfiornia, (Only Charter Member)
John F. Bryan	1884	Bremerton, Washington
J. K. Kutnewsky	1886	Redfield, South Dakota
J. D. Fargo	1892	Redfield, South Dakota
Hagbert Henrickson	1895	Mitchell, South Dakota
W. A. Morris	1896	Sioux Falls, South Dakota
H. E. Johnson	1896	Jacksonville, Illinois
W. F. Bruell	1899	Redfield, South Dakota
C. E. Stutenroth	1899	Redfield, South Dakota
C. R. Damuth	1899	Redfield, South Dakota

The following are members of Redfield Lodge No. 34, but were raised in some other Lodge:

A. F. Senechal	1883	Redfield, South Dakota
Frank Stevens	1887	Redfield, South Dakota
Wm. F. Christian	1891	Redfield, South Dakota
C. J. Mariner	1898	Redfield, South Dakota
W. W. DeWitt	1898	Redfield, South Dakota

At the present time there are also Masonic Lodges at Tulare, Frankfort, Doland, Ashton, Northville, and Mellette.

ZENITH LODGE NO. 202 A. F. & A. M., TULARE

A charter was granted on June 14, 1922. The principal officers at the time of the organization were: John M. Risbeck, W. M.; William H. Otto, S. W.; Carl A. Seemann, J. W.; James P. Paulsen, Secy.; C. C. Coffey, Treas.

During the first few years the Lodge met in a rented hall above the McCoy store. Later, a new modern Temple was erected and dedicated on May 26, 1926.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS AND REBEKAHS

Oddfellowship was started in Spink County when Ashton Lodge No. 45 was instituted at Ashton, on March 22, 1883. Soon thereafter, Nonpareil No. 50 was instituted at Redfield, on June 15, 1883. Then came Frankfort No. 83 at Frankfort, on March 18, 1886; Mellette No. 85 at Mellette on March 24, 1886; LaDelle No. 132 at LaDelle, May 18, 1896; Conde No. 141 at Conde, December 28, 1899; Doland No. 117 at Doland, August 2, 1905; Athol No. 166 at Athol, February 22, 1906; Demorest No. 172 at Turton August 23, 1906; and Northville No. 174 at Northville, January 25, 1907. Of these ten Lodges, Athol was merged with Ashton January 2, 1920, Northville with Mellette, February 23, 1924, and Turton with Doland, January 8, 1930. The Charter at Conde was taken up October 8, 1941, and at Doland April 3, 1947, leaving five active Lodges in the county at the present time. (April 22, 1961.)

Of the Rebekah Lodges, Ashton was again the first when Ruth No. 6 was instituted. It was the sixth Rebekah Lodge in the Dakotas. Following Ashton came Violet No. 63 at Mellette, on April 8, 1898; Queen Esther No. 73 at Conde, March 29, 1900; Emerald No. 75 at Redfield, April 12, 1900; Prairie No. 76 at LaDelle also on April 12, 1900; Northville No. 99 at Northville January 28, 1908; Glory No. 111 at Frankfort, March 2, 1909; Laurel No. 140 at Turton April 6, 1911; and Selena No. 175 at Doland March 19, 1920. Of these Lodges, Northville was merged with Mellette May 16, 1919, while Turton gave up its charter January 4, 1917, and Conde October 7, 1939.

In 1910 and 1911, Brother W. H. Case, the representative to Grand Lodge from Nonpareil No. 50 was one of a committee that was instrumental in building the Odd Fellows Home at Dell Rapids where there are now seventy residents who are members of the various Odd Fellows and Rebekah Lodges throughout South Dakota.

THE UNITED COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS OF AMERICA

The United Commercial Travelers is a fraternal insurance organization first open to traveling and professional men. At the present time they have extended their eligible list to any man under fifty-five years of age, who is not employed in a hazardous business.

They organized Council No. 568 in Redfield in 1911. They received their Charter in June, 1916, and the Charter Members were: F. D.

Arnstad, C. V. Dickson, C. A. Maas, L. J. Amble, R. E. Howell, C. M. Pickel, S. G. Norbeck, H. R. Johnson, C. B. King, H. S. Hawes, T. C. O'Brien, C. A. Pelkey, I. C. Sever, B. E. Lovejoy, C. C. Bersing, G. W. Hurst, G. A. Vogel, A. A. Moritz, H. A. Triplett, H. A. Walsh, H. N. Carlson, T. T. Searles, C. L. Nicholson, R. S. Williams, C. E. Stewart, C. M. C. Woodland, F. D. Robinson, H. R. McCullough, M. D. Sennette, C. C. Duncan, J. Ray Cole.

The Redfield Chapter had few members during the Thirties. Leon Goodell and H. O. Fish proceeded to reactivate it and reorganized the council. For one year they received the honor and the trophy for having the largest increase in membership of any chapter in the organization.

H. O. Fish was Secretary for many years. He has written more new applications for Redfield Council No. 568 than any other individual.

Members of the Redfield Council who have been past Grand officers of the State, were Leon Goodell, H. O. Fish, C. B. Cunningham, Phil Eckstrand, and Owen Rabuck.

At the present time, Robert Schwichtenberg is on the State Executive Board. There are 120 members in Redfield and Spink County.

Since the United Commercial Travelers is an accident insurance organization, it has promoted safety by means of poster contests, and has been influential in having highway safety laws passed, as well as sanitation laws for hotels and motels.

At the present time, the organization is interested in aiding the mentally retarded children.

TRUE INCIDENTS

Chapter Eight

AN INDIAN RESCUED ME

by Mrs. Klebsch

One time, when I was about fifteen years old, I was walking through the woods along the James River, when my attention was attracted to some wild grapes overhanging the water on the opposite side of the river. There were several large rocks in the river and I decided to cross the water on these rocks in order to get the grapes. The water was deep and the current was swift and, in watching the water, I became dizzy and fell into the river. I sank to the bottom. I still remember just how it looked down there. In a short time I came to the surface, and was grabbed by the collar by a person who was swimming behind me. When we reached the shore, I stood trembling on my feet while the person who had rescued me disappeared in the thicket, after he had shaken me by the shoulders. It was a tall Indian, and I had not been aware of his presence when I fell into the water. I never knew why he shook me. I always felt that the Indians were my friends and I found them very interesting.

Another time, while I was walking through the woods, I found an Indian skull lying on the ground. In the branches of a nearby tree were the other bleached bones of the Indian's skeleton. It was the custom of the tribe to wrap their dead in blankets, and place them in trees. Flood waters the next spring washed the skeleton from the tree and all traces were gone.

During the first year on our claim, my family raised enough potatoes and rutabagas for our use. A cow supplied the milk that we needed. The following winter it was very cold and the snow was very deep so we could not get supplies. Consequently, we had no meat, sugar, coffee, flour and other staple food, but lived for three months on muffins and pancakes that we made from wheat which we ground in a hand coffee mill. This grinding was a slow process and kept one person busy most of the time. We were fortunate in having plenty of firewood.

One morning not long after we came to Dakota I looked out over the prairie and saw what I thought was a huge herd of sheep. I started to walk in that direction. The distance was much farther than I had thought as I could see miles across the prairie. As I came nearer, I saw that my "herd of sheep" were the bleached bones and skulls of many buffaloes. At least a hundred of these animals had been slaughtered for their hides only, the meat being a total waste. Actions such as this could not be tolerated by the Indians. They were justified in defending themselves from people who showed so little consideration for them, and the property they had cherished for so long.

The Indians were a very conservative people. They never killed for sport, only enough to satisfy their needs. They considered the buffalo, antelope, and other game their property, much as the farmer of today considers his herds and his flocks his property. The rivers and streams were well stocked with fish, and the Indian and his family were well supplied with what they needed.

My parents' claim was located on the James River near an Indian camping ground. An Indian trail which ran through this farm could be seen for miles across the prairie. We lived in a sod shanty and our closest railroad station, from which we brought all our provisions, was a distance of seventy miles. A round trip to this place required more than a day for we traveled with horses and wagons.

The Council Stone (the reproduction of which still stands on my farm) was an object of reflection and meditation. On one occasion I witnessed a ceremonial around this stone. I saw the chief lead eight men through a narrow passageway, then noticed that they formed a circle around the stone. They then sat on the ground and folded their arms. The chief was the first to smoke his pipe, then he passed it to the one on his right, and each in turn smoked it until it reached the fourth Indian, who returned it to the chief. The chief then passed it to the one on his left, and after the last one had finished smoking, it was returned to the chief. The chief then wrote something on the stone, and they all departed. Not a word had been spoken or a sound made during the entire ceremony, which lasted about thirty minutes. When the Indians were out of sight, I went to see what had been written on the rock, but I could not decipher the strange marks.

In the year 1892, the original council stone was stolen from the Klebsch farm. Since that time I have tried to do something to preserve the memory of the Council Stone, and the vicinity in which it is located.

In the year 1939, with the help of Lester Black, of Redfield, South Dakota, a reproduction of the stone was made. The members of the D. A. R., furnished the material and the site was fenced in. This monument stands in the schoolyard of the Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 117, Range 64, only twenty rods south of its original location.

ANECDOTES OF PIONEERS

H. R. Rising, editor of the first newspaper in Redfield, the Dakota Sun, had his headquarters in the back of Mr. Packard's store. He usually set type at night, setting up his cases on a molasses and vinegar barrel. One night he evidently brushed against the spigot of the molasses barrel accidentally, and the next morning Mr. Packard had to wade ankle deep in the sticky product.

The story was related that a pioneer was having difficulty with a colicky horse when two men came along seeking shelter for the night. He asked them whether by any chance they had any kind of medicine with them. One of the men replied that they had a jug of Redfield's Ready Relief', which they produced and looked on in amazement and some distress as they saw the last drop go gurgling down the horse's throat.

W. J. Case, the Milwaukee agent during the winter of 1883, received word by telegram the morning of January 12, 1888, that a storm was coming at the rate of one hundred miles per hour. He went up town from the depot which was a mile or more southeast of the present location to warn the people of the predicted storm. It was such a beautiful morning, that most of the people laughed at the warning. Seeing J. M. Miles, who operated a milk route he asked him to inform the people on his route about the approaching storm. Their reaction was also one of amusement because of the balmy weather. As Miles drove into the stable at his home, the snow, as he described it, "suddenly came like a great white mountain. It was a solid wall of snow, fine as flour, and light. One could go through it, but couldn't breathe. Glancing up, I saw a great stream of snow like a river coming down hill and pouring over the roof of the stable."

Mr. J. M. Miles, historian of the Spink County Historical Society, writing for the Spink County Pioneer Press in 1911, said the expression was current relative to the difficulties of the pioneers that they "hung on by their eyelashes". Said he, "Thousands had not the financial backing to hang on. Others had not the financial backing to let go. They had to hang on, and by so doing they have reaped a grand harvest".

Somebody in the family teaching or working on the railroad made it possible for some pioneers to stay.

Someone else commenting on the same matter recalled that some settlers were thus able to increase their financial rating from $100.00 to $100,000.00.

I. O. Ewing, in a paper read to a meeting of the same Society summed up his respect for the caliber of the people who settled Spink County when he said: "We listen with pleasure to men of ability, but we follow the leadership of men of character."

BASE BALL IN THE 1890-1900-s

One of the greatest baseball pitchers of all time came from Spink County. He was Charley (Deacon) Phillippe of the Ashton-Northville area. Phillippe pitched for Ashton in the 1890s and soon after was selected by the Pittsburgh Pirates for a tryout. He pitched for a few Minor League games, and then in 1901 was brought up to the Big League by Pittsburgh and developed into one of their greatest pitchers.

Pittsburgh won the National League pennant in 1903, and faced the Boston Red Sox in the World Series. The Boston team was led by Cy Young and Bill Dineen. Phillippe beat Cy Young in the opening game 7 to 3, and then went on to do an Iron Man Act, never equaled in the World Series competition. The Red Sox won the second game 4 to 2, but Phillippe came in again to win the third game, 4 to 2. With a two day rest, Phillippe pitched and won the fourth game, 5 to 4. The Series went nine games. Phillippe winning three games and losing two. The great shortstop, Honus Wagner, was a teammate of Deacon Phillippe. The American League had been formed in 1900, and the 1903 Series was a result of a challenge by the Red Sox players.

Some of the players on the Ashton team who played with Phillippe, in the 1890s were Ed. Bullen, catcher, Osiah Fasset, first base, Evan Roberts, shortstop, Bert Lewis, left field, Johnny and Henry Hanley, George and Frank Ramser, Eber E. Hodge, and Kim Glasgow.

Eber E. Hodge who is 94 years old and still very active was a major league pitcher also, and first had a tryout with Detroit. Pitched for Duluth, Hibbing, in Minnesota Mining League, besides several other league teams.

BLIZZARD OF 1888

These Pioneer Stories were compiled by the Grade School Children for their Y. C. L. Project.

PIONEER STORIES FOR CLIFTON TOWNSHIP.

In 1886 Mr. Ed Siebrecht's father, Mr. Ferdinand Siebrecht, went out after a load of straw. When he got to the strawstack a big blizzard hit. As he started home the weather became so bad that he couldn' find his way back, and the snow also blinded the horses, so he let them go with the storm. They finally arrived at a house three-fourths of a mile east of the old Bindenagel farm, where Ed. White lived. The storm subsided sometime during the night and Mr. Siebrecht came home the following morning, with frozen hands, feet, and face. The horses had taken him two and one-half miles beyond his home.

It had been so cold in the house that Mrs. Siebrecht had to put the older boys to bed and the baby had been wrapped up and sitting in a big chair, to keep them from freezing to death.

The Siebrechts lived ten miles east and one-half mile north of Ashton at that time.

(Told by Ed. Siebrecht.)

Attacked by the Wolves.

One spring morning Ida and Albert Barz heard a big yipping and they ran out and there was a big pack of wolves after their little colts. Albert took a gun and a fast horse and went out after them. By the time he got there, the wolves had already separated several colts from their mothers. They were able to drive the wolves away.

(Told by Ida Barz.)

THE BLIZZARD OF 1888.

Many stories have been written about the blizzard of January 12, 1888.

The following is a story of the Kiser School in Tetonka Township on that day. Most of the credit for this story belongs to Guy Miller who lives at Conde, and was one of the pupils at the Kiser school on the day of the blizzard.

Miss Eva Miller. an older sister of Guy and Louise Miller, was the teacher. She lived with her parents in Benton Township three and one-half miles away. The father, Joe Miller, took Eva and her younger sister and brother to the school that bright sunny morning and then went home to do the chores, expecting to return at four o'clock.

About ten o'clock in the forenoon a black cloud suddenly appeared from the northwest. The snowstorm struck with a fury and it became as dark as night.

The children couldn't see to read but had some oral lessons. They ate their lunch at noon expecting to go home later. The stove door was opened occasionally for a little light. The storm grew worse toward night. There wasn't any supper and not much chance to sleep. A few dozed a little.

Some of the pupils were absent that day. Among those who were present were: Guy and Louise Miller, Scott, Lloyd and Daisy of the George Smith family, Dora and Pearl Kiser and Noah Edwards.

The following morning the storm subsided. The last of the fuel in the entryway was gone. About nine A.M., the anxious parents began coming through the heavy drifts for their children. The first to reach the school was Mr. George Smith who lived one-half mile north of the school. He took his children and the Millers to his home.

They were all eating breakfast when Mr. Miller came. He had cut across from the east. Mr. Kiser came for his children and the John Smith children.

It was thought there were eight or ten inches of snow on the level.

BLIZZARD BY A. G. ANDERSON

A. G. Anderson, who lived on Dry Run in Clifton Township, had gone to Ashton the day before the Great Blizzard of January 12, 1888, to visit his daughter and son-in-law Nels Sevall. In the morning, after seeing a dark and threatening cloud, he decided to return home. When he was two miles east of town the storm struck and he was unable to see a thing, but as there had been much snow, the tracks were packed and when the horses left the tracks, the sleigh broke through the snow. In that way he knew when he was on the road.

He reached a nearby farmhouse safely, and stayed there until the storm was over the next day. Enroute to the farmhouse he heard a man shout, helping the man to reach the sleigh. This man had gone in search of his cows and would surely have perished had Mr. Andersen not heard him call.

A son, John Anderson, was at home with his mother during the storm. He had closed the barn doors and milked the cows. When he opened the door to return to the house, he was unable to see anything. He tied one end of a ball of twine, to the barn, and started for the house. He knew the number of steps between the house and barn, but had to make three attempts before he found the house.

The mother and son were thankful when they saw Mr. Anderson's sleigh coming across the prairies the next day.

BIG BLIZZARD (1888).

When the Oeder children were on their way home from school, the storm became so bad the horses couldn't find their way. The oldest boy went for help, but became lost and burrowed into a strawstack where he spent the night. The other children took the bobsled with a wagon box, turned it over and slept there under the box until morning. Several fingers and toes were missing from the frostbite, but otherwise they came through the storm all right.

In 1881 when Ruth Childs was a baby, an Indian tribe was traveling through, and Mr. Childs took the children to the camp to see the Indians. Ruth was a very fair child and the Indian Chief was very interested in the "White Baby". He offered to trade a pony for her. This same person later became an instructor in the Indian schools, a very enthusiastic and capable man.

BLIZZARD BY LOU BARROWS

The morning of January 12, 1888 as I recall, was a really warm morning for winter. Most of the children attending the Redfield school played outside at recess, but shortly after the recess it suddenly became very dark in the schoolroom. The school faculty consisted of Professor Bebee, and three teachers, Miss Lou Foster, Miss Ida Pike, and Mrs. F. Lovejoy.

Miss Foster taught the room where my brother Elmer and I were pupils. I was fifteen years of age at the time, and my brother was sixteen. Those who were young at that time and are oldsters now may recall names that were familiar to them in that era as they are mentioned.

A large number of pupils left the school in a body and gradually dropped out when nearest their homes. As I recall, the first to leave our group were Alva and Jimmie McClintock, then Ella Plackett, Frank Lockwood, Bernie Jarvis, Jessie Miller, Walter Fink, who took Fannie Powers home, Grace Johnson, George Hopkins, Arthur Doyan, Florence Demarest, Jack Walsh, Hattie Ingersoll, Henry and Martha Arns, Carrie Lovejoy, George May, and Daisy Bent, Frank Schalkle, Judy McGrew, Emma Cordes, Theodore Smith, Harry Dodge, all of them living south of Sixth Avenue, Winnie Bagge, Al Anderson, Harry and Mamie Marine, Nora Hough, Sybil Dunning, Oscar Tinney, two Greenman boys, George Beidleman, Harry Henry, Harry Reising, George Herman, Edith Pratt, Clyde Campbell, Agnes Clark, Mary Welker, Charlie and Harvey Mellette, Bill, Carrie and Delta Basford, Harley Packard, Ruby Hedges, Lizzie and Willie Grady, John McConnell, two Sullivan sisters. Albert and Ella Oeder, who lived west of town could not get home in the storm and stayed at our house until the next day. Miss Pike was staying at our home at the time and someone helped her get her little flock of youngsters home and then saw that she reached our home safely.

The storm got worse and it was a terrible night and even with storm doors and windows we were unable to keep the snow from forming miniature drifts in the house. The next morning it had moderated some and Mother sent Elmer and me up to Al and Mary Dikeman's home in the north-part of town, to get our milk and butter. The Dikemans in north Redfield provided shelter for a stranger lost in the storm. He told them he lived on a claim between Ashton and Athol and had tried to get from his house to the barn. He had a rope tied to his door knob which would hardly reach to the barn. He thought he could make it as it was only a few steps. When he let go of the rope, he could not see a foot from his face, and could not find the barn or could not find the rope again. Most farmers of the area had buffalo coats, felt or yellow sheepskin boots, and while it was heavy equipment to carry in a storm, it saved many lives. This fellow got lost in the middle of the afternoon and nothing to do but keep drifting with the storm, and the first object he came in contact with was the Dikeman house at three o'clock the following morning. He felt around the building until he found a door and, by pounding on the door, was able to waken the family inside.

The engine house for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was situated a short distance from the depot to the north, and on the opposite side of the tracks. It had two big doors, opening to the north. There were no engines in the stalls at the time and the doors were hooked wide open. The snow completely filled the house, later becoming ice, and it was several weeks before the engine house could be used again.

BLIZZARD

by Mrs. Pauline Boub

Miss Dana Harlow
Redfield, South Dakota

Dear Friend Dana:

It is nice to hear from a friend so long silent, even though it is to ask me to write something. I always answer letters.

I will make an effort to tell you about the great blizzard of January 12, 1888, however, there was another blizzard, an old-fashioned one that lasted three days. I don't remember much about that one. The other blizzard lasted twenty-four hours and your mother, Nellie Flynn, Mrs. J. P. Harlow, a teacher, stayed all night in the Schafer school with some of her pupils.

As your mother boarded with us that term, we all walked to school together that morning and remarked what a beautiful morning it was, no wind, and plenty of snow. Suddenly, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, it was getting dark and the wind whooped it up and a blizzard was at hand, so during the noon recess the teacher carried coal from the shed back of the schoolhouse. She must have had an inkling of the power of the storm for she brought in hod after hod of coal and piled it on the floor near the stove. She also cautioned the pupils not to eat all of their dinner for they might need it later on. With the fuel well supplied, the schedule went on as usual, for the ten pupils in the little country school.

About the middle of the afternoon, my father and Fred arrived at the schoolhouse; Fred, for some reason or other, had not gone to school that morning. They had tied an end of twine to a clothesline post near the house, and, with two balls of twine sliding through their hands, they started out to find the school. All went well until they learned that the twine was not long enough to reach the schoolhouse. Imagine Fred going back for more twine and Father standing waiting for his return. Fred returned with the twine and Father did not freeze waiting for him. So they went on their way until there was a lull in the wind and they noticed a black spot in the air. They sidled a bit to the southeast and discovered that they had encircled the schoolhouse. Glory! They came in, not the worse for their experience, and warmed themselves by the fire. They decided that Oscar could go home with them since they had the twine to guide them.

In the meantime, the three Mettler children were taken home by an older brother, Guy, who came for them with his sled and team of horses. After traveling for a short distance the horses refused to go. Guy investigated and found that the horses were relieved when he dug the snow from their nostrils so they could breathe. They succeeded in reaching their home a half mile west of the school, although the wind was blowing at a terrific rate from the northwest.

That left three of us in the school. (I don't remember about the two Yauney children), there were Nellie, Theodore, my younger brother, and I. It was really bad!! Finally one of the shutters loosened and blew back and forth against the side of the schoolhouse. The teacher was afraid it would break a window, and urged me to go out and bring it in. I ventured out, hugged close to the wall, and succeeded in bringing it in. We tried to make the best of our time but we could not sleep. Finally the morning light came and we three sleepy mortals looked out the window and saw that the wind had abated and we felt that we could make the trip home. We struggled through the snow banks and reached home where Mother had a nice warm breakfast waiting for us, and we were none the worse for our experience.

Love and best wishes to you,
Mrs. Pauline Boub.

BLIZZARD BY W. R. PERCIVAL

I remember this blizzard as if it were yesterday. It struck just as school was called. Hugh Mair and Robert Cunningham came at once to see if their children had walked the mile from home and arrived safely at the school. At eleven-thirty my father came for my sister and me. When he realized how severe the storm was he and the two older pupils led all the pupils to our home. The teacher, Bessie Stanfield, refused to go, saying she would stay at the schoolhouse until four o'clock and longer if the storm continued.

About three o'clock the following morning, when the storm had abated, father and the two oldest pupils went to the school house but the teacher had gone. When daylight came, they found her frozen body ten rods from our house or about twenty-five rods from the school.

65 Years Ago This March

THE BLIZZARD STRUCK!

By: Al Solberg

On March 11, 1896 I went through a blizzard I'll never forget. The morning was mild, almost thawing, when Nick Schmit, who lived one-half mile west of our place, came along and we hiked a mile and a half to school at the Swenson schoolhouse.

There was a heavy overcast and a strong northeast wind. By eleven o'clock A.M. it began to snow. At noon it was really smoky. At two o'clock in the afternoon our teacher, William Campbell, told Nick and me we'd better carry in a lot of coal, so we each took a coal-hod and filled a big box by the heater and piled up a heap by the wall. Then teacher said, two more hods full would be enough.

Well, Billie Meyer had a field of standing corn close by the coal shed. Nick suggested that we take some ears of corn with us so we could parch them on the stove and we could eat them, because we would be hungry before morning. So, we filled our pockets and our overall bibs and went in.

It was dark by three o'clock in the afternoon. There were eight kerosene bracket-lamps on the wall, so we poured all the kerosene out of the eight into three lamps and lit them. Well, we played games till about 5:30 and then teacher divided all the lunches, his as well as ours, but it did not satisfy our appetites. Later on, we parched all our corn and divided it among us and we surely did justice to it. Then began the long night's vigil. We managed to sleep a few hours. Then the temperature went down and with that strong wind, it seemed to ooze through the schoolroom. We shivered and huddled around the stove, till at long last gray daylight appeared.

Our coal was almost exhausted, but the wind had gone down considerably. We were all wishing we were home and telling what we'd all have for breakfast. We heard a loud "whoa"! We opened the door and there was old Christ Nord, our neighbor to the south. He had a pan of bread and butter sandwiches, a big pan of hamburgers, and a big pot of coffee—all covered with blankets so it was still warm.

After partaking of that repast, we all returned to our homes. No more school that week.

BLIZZARD BY F. E. WALLAR

"On January 12, 1888, at eight o'clock in the morning, the temperature was 22 degrees above zero. The south wind was moving a little. At ten o'clock the wind changed and came from the north. It was the heaviest wind and snowstorm in the five years I had been in Dakota Territory. By four o'clock in the afternoon it was 12 degrees below zero. One couldn't see a rod ahead."

This is the entry written by Francis A. Wallar in his diary, the day of the blizzard; His son, Gene who lived on a farm southeast of Brentford, had his father's Record Book.

Gene recalled the morning of January 12th when he and his brother Lloyd went to school across the road from their home, on the Southwest Quarter of Section 19, Township 119, Range 63. John E. Webb was the teacher. Frank and Billy Bastian were in school that day too.

When the storm struck Mr. Webb bundled the boys in their wraps and led them to the Wallar home, where they all spent the night. The following is the next entry in the diary: "January 13, 1888, 4 A.M. storm began to let up. Thermometer is 25 below. Stormed all day. 12 below at 2 o'clock. Snow still blowing at 9 P.M."

"January 14, 1888, 7 A.M. 23 below zero. Some wind yet. Gradually going to the northwest, at two o'clock. Snow still drifting. Haven't heard of anyone being lost."

"BOY GROWS UP"

O. A. Olson, Fargo, N. Dakota

When I was a young lad I was permitted to ride with father, once a year from our Territorial homestead to our post office and source of supplies at Frankfort, in Dakota Territory.

Our conveyance was an old single-seated open buggy with an empty whip-socket, wobbly wheels, rattling spokes, and loose tires which had a tendency to pick up the dirt for the wind to hurl back at us with a choking effect. Our power unit was Gypsy, a frisky young mare with speed and poise, all decked out with a checkered fly blanket over the breast collar harness, ornamented with all the nickel-plated spots and celluloid rings that were the order of the day. With Gypsy bowing her head, tugging at the bit and leaving a streak of dust behind us, we arrived at the grocery store by noon to get the monthly mail and lay in a supply of the most needed items of food.

Having had nothing to eat since an early breakfast except a few prune pits that I had not taken time to crack while at the table. I was hungry enough to enjoy most any kind of a meal, but the meal that I was about to have on this, my first trip to town, is the one that I best remember.

Having made such trips every month, the merchant knew just what father would want for lunch so he put five cents worth of gingersnaps in a bag, took from his shelf a tall can of salmon with the words "Alaska Sockeye" printed on it in big letters, loaned us a can opener, two spoons and a butter-boat into which father emptied the salmon and set it on an upended cracker box near the back of the store and located two other boxes for us to sit on. He rinsed the salmon remnants from the can, filled it with ice-water from the merchant's water-cooler and our table was set.

This was my first introduction to gingersnaps, salmon and ice-water (that is, in the summertime) and when I smacked my lips with enjoyment I marveled at the fact that there was anything in the world that could taste that good.

The paper sack and the butter-boat were empty before my stomach was full, so I took up the slack with another can of ice-water and emitted a benedictory burp following my best remembered meal.

COUNTY TREASURER ABSCONDS

Written on official letterhead, it read: Redfield, D. T., November 25, 1888.
Mr. Will Kiser:

I am about to take a terrible step. I am short in my accounts and I am going away with the intention of not returning. Who knows, I may. This will be a terrible shock to you and to many. Tell Mr. Beidleman and he will probably call the commissioners together and ascertain how my accounts are.

C. G. Winchell.

Taken from Book B—County Commissioners' Record—Pages 343-379. April 2, 1889.

"Whereas by resolution of this board under date of Dec. 6, 1888, it was declared that one C. G. Winchell, late Treasurer of Spink County, had absconded and was no longer a resident of said territory and whereas it was further declared by resolution of said board that said Winchell as Treasurer as aforesaid was a defaulter in the sum of $16,301.07. and whereas said board claims the right to recover said amount from said Winchell and his bondsmen who are hereinafter named and whereas the bondsmen have this day paid W. C. Kiser, Treasurer of Said County, for the use of said County, the sum of $8,000.00 together with $18.30 costs, Bondsmen: Caroline Eaton, Joseph E. Berto, A. F. Hawkins, M. L. Reed, F. W. Rogers, A. D. Moulton, John Nelson, W. C. Kiser, J. L. Boyer, C. W. Andrews, and J. E. Labrie, who resigned the bond of date Jan. 8, 1885, being for the first term as treasurer, and F. W. Rogers, A. F. Hawkins, M. L. Reed, F. W. Kammon, A. D. Moulton, J. H. Berto, J. G. Bullen, W. C. Kiser, J. L. Boyer, E. Lewis, John Nelson, J. H. Townley and E. J. Clement, the bondsmen of said Winchell for his second term. Dated Jan. 3, 1887. And they are hereby and jointly and severally released and forever discharged from any and all liability."

Redfield, D. T., 1-12-89

"Office of the District Attorney.
Spink County, D. T.
E. Lewis, Esq.,
Grobe, D. T.

Dear Sir:

You are one of the bondsmen of the late Treasurer of Spink County. Mr. Winchell's default is so great that the County is obliged to look to all the bondsmen to share the loss. A number of them have agreed to pay $1,000.00 apiece in full settlement of their individual obligations under the bond. The County Commissioners look to you for the same sum. I am authorized to say to you that if you will pay or secure the payment of that sum soon into the County Treasury, it will be accepted as a full settlement from you. Otherwise, an expensive action will be necessary. Let us hear from you soon and oblige.

Yours truly,
R. B. Hassell,
District Attorney."

DRIFTING GOOSE MAKES A HOME

Drifting Goose claimed the area the "Dirt Lodges" on the James River in Spink County, from about the present town of Ashton up to the south line of Brown County, as belonging to his band of the Yanktonaise. In 1851 the Santee Sioux had agreed to certain restricted reservations, and in 1857 the Yanktons had agreed to give of their land in a specified area, but the Yanktonaise, and particularly Drifting Goose, had made no such agreements, and he had been able to sufficiently frighten those sent to deal with him, without, however, offering real violence, that he had held off the white men from 1858 to 1880. General W. H. H. Beadle, leading an advance surveying party up the James River in 1873, encountered difficulties with Drifting Goose, as did several of his successors.

Armadale is an island in the James River, in the northern part of the county, seven miles northeast of Mellette. The island was first known as Drifting Goose Island, named for the chief of the band of Sioux Indians who lived there in 1879.

The island contains 100 acres and is surrounded by the James River and its branches. There is an open space in the center large enough for a half-mile race track. This picturesque island has been the playground and recreational center of both Spink and Brown counties, for over half a century. Much history is connected with the island. Here Drifting Goose and a band of Sioux Indians camped for many winters, for Drifting Goose Reservation consisted of four sections of land close to the island. The west line of the Reservation came to the section line one mile east of the town of Mellette. As the Indians had trouble with the settlers, in the summer of 1880 the Government opened the land for settlement. There are caves and wallows on the banks of the river where the Indians stored corn for future use. To the northwest just across the old river bed is an old burying ground. The graves and the markings are still intact. Relic seekers have requested the privilege of delving into the graves in search of curios, but the owners have refused to allow this practice.

A postoffice was established on the island on August 18, 1879, and named Foster City by C. B. Foster, an early settler and storekeeper. Originally he had lived at Fort Sisseton, the Indian Reservation, and spoke the Sioux language fluently.

The first wedding in the county took place at Foster City, November 17, 1879, when Robert Love and Anna M. Whiteman were married.

In 1880 the settlement consisted of four houses and the postoffice. The settlers were Don Shelton, James B. Foster, Matt Turner, and William Durkee. When C. B. Foster moved away and James B. Churchill became postmaster on May 26, 1881, Churchill, not liking Foster, and after unsuccessfully perusing the dictionary for a suitable name, coined the name of Armadale. It has no particular significance. Churchill merely liked the word.

The postoffice was discontinued November 3, 1886, and re-established March 8, 1887. The office was finally discontinued April 14, 1890, and mail was ordered sent to Mellette.

FLOOD OF 1897

The following description of the Flood was taken from the Mellette Gimlet, Mellette, Spink County, South Dakota, April 9, 1897.

"The life-saving crew of Rose, with their host, "Molly Able," Floyd Reynolds, Captain, and Sedgwick Smith, First-Mate, were very busy all last week, and did such good work that their neighbors will remember them with kind words for many days. They first rescued Burt Smith and family. The water came up into Burt's house about a foot and was drained away only after ditching through the snow for about forty rods, and digging a ditch about twelve feet deep. They worked two nights and one day. Jim Smith says that when they got the water started through the ditch, it roared like the cataract of Niagara. Burt had two hundred bushels of potatoes in the cellar and two hundred bushels of ground feed in one room to keep it dry. He said he failed to find words to tell just how he felt and how everything looked. A twelve-foot snowbank kept the water away from his granary and stables.

The next one to call for help was Will Eske on Dry Run. The water came down the Run, rolling about eight feet high and half a mile wide, and soon Will's house and barn were full of water. He turned his stock out, thinking they would go out on the prairie, but they got up on a snow bank near the barn and he could not drive them away. One of the neighbors went after Jim Smith and his boat, but his boat was at Bigstone.

Jim sent for Floyd Reynolds. They tore down a shanty, and with some rotten plank and tar paper built a boat. By this time, Dry Run was three-fourths of a mile wide and fourteen feet deep, and was up to the top of the windows at Eske's house. They took Will out at the upstairs window and then went to save the stock. Taking a horse, they started to swim across to land, but a short distance from the barn, the horse turned around and pulled the boat back. They then went to the store at Rose to get three coils of half-inch rope, 3600 feet long.

Taking one horse at a time, standing on the land, they pulled it across and then the rope was taken back by boat and hitched to another horse. In this way, twelve horses and twelve head of cattle were taken out. The wind was blowing a gale and the waves ran three and four feet high. They saved everything except one of the best cows, which got into the water and perished before they could get her out. Mr. Eske had eight hundred bushels of wheat, all of his seed grain, and all of his feed, both grain and hay, under water. The waves ran so high they were afraid to take Mrs. Eske and the children, so they stayed in the house. Their youngest child was but four weeks old, and Will said if the house went, all would go together. As soon as the wind went down, they took them in the boat and landed them at Will's father's, all well and safe.

Jim Smith says if anyone had told him he would have to work for three days and nights on these dry sunburned prairies with a rotten boat rescuing his neighbors, he would have told him he was the worst prevaricator he had ever seen.

Shell Jarrett took time by the forelock and moved out onto higher ground. All his buildings located on the Run, are under water. A good many families are using their cellars for cisterns. Several farmers, by working all night, kept the water out of their cellars. Joe Fuller bailed out water all night. We put on our gum boots at one o'clock at night and made up our minds we had slept enough for that night — Mud Creek is a mile wide. Jim River is on the roar a mile or more wide. The Big Slough is three miles wide. They ride from Joe Lentz's to Conde in a boat. All the difference between living in this country now, and being in prison is — You have the privilege of leaving here, if you can swim.

The following news items were taken from the Mellette Gimlet, of April 9, 1897:

"THE DELUGE. Several lives lost. The Jim River and several creeks continue to rise. Bridges lifted from the piers. Whole farms set under water and homes abandoned."

Miscellaneous items of local interest concerning this extraordinary flood.

"The Jim rose three feet from Saturday 'til Monday A.M. All seven bridges on Snake Creek have floated away. The Island of Armadale is several feet under water, likewise the Armadale Bridge.

"On Wednesday the Jim River was 8 feet higher than it was at the highest level reached in 1881.

"Will Wacherau and Frank Leonard have established a ferry on the town line and are prepared to transport passengers and heavy merchandise.

"Clifford Smith, Charles Halpenny and Will Strothman were the first to cross the big slough between Mellette and Northville on Monday. They used a raft formed of five ties and three planks. It took about an hour and a half to push it across. The boat used in the irrigation ditches of the Hunter farm has now been pressed into service on the big slough.

"When the old Indian Chief 'Drifting Goose' some years ago addressed the crowd assembled on the Island of Armadale to celebrate the glorious Fourth of July, he stated among other things, that he had seen the Island covered up with snow to the tops of the trees, and that the spring following the Island was covered with many feet of water, and that he was sure this would happen again. Those who at that time dismissed the old chief's story with an incredulous shrug, now feel that they owe him an apology.

THE FLOOD OF 1897 and 1898

by Merle Legler, Redfield, South Dakota

The winter of 1897-98 was cold and the snow was five feet deep, but when spring came the snow melted quickly and the ice broke up in the creek. The ice jam was so great that it could not pass through the bridge east of Redfield, and the land around was covered with two feet of water. More ice blocks forced out every bridge in Turtle Creek. Fish swarmed down from the Missouri and James Rivers making fishing good in this vicinity for ten years after the flood.

SIDE-LIGHTS OF THE STORM OF 1888

During the early morning of the "great blizzard" of January 12, 1888, the sky was clear, but toward noon clouds formed and flour-like snow swirled with great force through the air. People took refuge wherever they could find shelter. One man stayed all night with his pigs. Another, returning from town with a load of coal, tried to keep alive by setting his sled afire. Because of the strong wind, he was unable to start a fire and froze to death beside his sled.

FACTS OF EARLY SPINK COUNTY HISTORY

D. N. Hunt, W. D. Beebe, and F. A. Ledgler came to Watertown in 1879. Watertown was then the end of the railroad, and the men stayed for a time there, and then walked to Redfield.

In Redfield Mr. Hunt started a land and insurance business. Mr. Beebe worked at odd jobs until 1882, when he started a blacksmith shop and feed mill (now known as the Legler Repair Shop operated by Caryl Larsen), and Legler went to Pierre to work for the telephone company. In 1882, he returned to Redfield and worked in the blacksmith shop for Mr. Beebe. In 1884 he bought the shop and operated it until his death in 1920. After 1920, his son, Merle Legler, managed the shop until his retirement in 1957. This is perhaps the oldest business place in Spink County.

Mr. D. N. Hunt, a land man from Minnesota, was the first Mayor of Redfield. His first year's salary was a gold-headed cane. Other early mayors were H. P. Packard, and L. P. Bromley. Mr. Bromley didn't charge any water rent; he said "It comes free, and we will give it to the people free."

Early artesian wells had over one hundred pounds pressure. In the early days, every farmer had a water wheel for power.

Colonel E. F. Furbush was an early auctioneer in Redfield. He also had horses for rent. Many were used by land agents and their customers.

In 1900, Redfield had over two hundred fifty land agents, five saloons, three hotels, five cafes which remained open day and night, a cigar factory and bowling alleys, and three slaughter houses. The Norbeck-Nicholson Company had forty well rigs in operation, and there were four livery barns. These did a good business taking land seekers around the country. One unscrupulous land agent sold some of the farms to two or three men at the same time.

Redfield also had four doctors who went by horse and buggy to call on their patients. There was no hospital but a Mrs. Kelley took care of many patients.

The Northwestern Railroad came to Redfield in about 1882.

In 1906 Spink County held a County Fair. The buildings were located where the Seventh-Day Adventist Academy now stands.

The three first hotels in Redfield were "The Jarvis House," now the Packard Hotel; the "Foster House" operated by Gene and Fred Dodge, named for Mr. Foster, and was the headquarters for railroad men in Redfield; and the "Welker House," located just west of the present A & B Garage. Buffalo Bill and Sitting Bull stayed there one night on their way to Yankton. Many Indians used to camp on the land now owned by Dr. Perry.

The baseball team of the early days, known as "The Redfield Dead Shots," was one of the best teams Redfield ever had. It was made up of ex-Minneapolis league players who came to Redfield and worked as bar-tenders.

In 1907, smallpox hit the town of Redfield, and over a hundred people contracted the disease. Guards were posted and there was no "ingress or egress" for thirty days.

The county seat fight of the early days is still talked about. They had two elections to decide where the county seat was to be. Redfield won both elections but Ashton refused to give up the books. Redfield had given free board and room to several hoboes so they could be legal voters. One saloon keeper said he had voted thirteen times. Redfield sent some men to get the records and then they hid them under the floor of a coal shed back of Anderson's Undertaking Parlors.

Ashton men came in wagons and gathered east of Redfield, where the old Milwaukee Depot was located. A large number of Redfield men, armed with guns met them. Civil War veterans, too, sat perched on their roofs to help. However, no shots were fired, and the Ashton men returned to their homes.

I. W. W. AND THE HOBOES IN 1916.

In 1916, the I. W. W.s and the hoboes were having trouble in Huron, so the hoboes decided to come to Redfield and find work in the harvest fields. The I. W. W.s wanted all the work so they caught the next train to Redfield. The two groups met near the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad depot. Shots were fired into the air and one man was wounded. The police were called and they marched the I. W. W.s out of town and the hoboes were given free lunch at the expense of the city. The town was then guarded for a week afterwards for the I. W. W.s had threatened to return with a thousand men to help them. They didn't come, however, and it was not necessary to call the South Dakota National Guard, which was stationed at Hagman's Grove.

COMPANY "G", REDFIELD'S NATIONAL GUARD UNIT

Company "G", the National Guard Unit that has a fine Armory in Redfield at the present time, was mustered about 1900. In 1916, before leaving for the Mexican border, Company "G", along with other South Dakota units, camped at Hagman's Grove northeast of Redfield.

In the first World War in 1918 members of this unit were in the 147th supply train in France, and in the second World War Company "G" was sent to Alaska.

FLOOD OF 1881

by Oliver J. Labrie

I remember the flood we had in the spring of 1881. At this time we were emigrating from Illinois to Dakota Territory.

Our party of eighteen people and six freight cars loaded with household goods, feed, machinery and livestock, were snow-bound at St. Peter, Minnesota, for six weeks. It took the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad one week for repairing of bridges from this area to the end of the railway, which, as I remember it, was at Watertown. We finally arrived there late in April. The railway officials ordered all cars unloaded at once, saying they needed the cars immediately. We were side-tracked on the business part of the city which was then all prairie.

A guard was stationed as a watchman to prevent thievery.

We were again delayed by the Sioux River. At this time it was eighty rods wide and had no bridges. A ferry was built so we were able to cross the river, with the most needed things. Wagons were taken across on the ferry. It required four to six horses to pull them to higher ground.

Finally we were on the last lap of our journey sixty-five miles northwest of Watertown, where we arrived on May 12. We had been seventy-nine days on the road. During the summer, thirty-three trips were made for lumber, machinery and other supplies which we brought from Watertown.

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

In 1889, James B. Churchill, the first Spink County Commissioner, planned a Fourth of July entertainment to celebrate the Statehood of South Dakota. He hired fifty Indians to perform a war dance. Instead of fifty, one hundred fifty came and they arrived three weeks before the Fourth. Mr. Churchill had to feed them and it was rumored that a cow was butchered twice a week to do this. The Indians visited the nearby farmers and begged for milk, eggs and chickens. One squaw walked into a home and helped herself to the bread-dough in a pan.

Armadale was Drifting Goose's old camp ground and every summer Indian caravans of ten to twelve wagons camped here for a week at a time, while on their way to and from Sisseton and Crow Creek Reservations. The last time Indians camped at Armadale was in 1897.

Some of Drifting Goose's Indians once claimed some of Mr. Churchhill's ponies. However, Mr. Churchill knew they belonged to him and ordered the Indians off the Churchill place. They left at once and did not return.

INCIDENTS

The first funeral of the county was that of a little child at Old Ashton.

D. N. Hunt was the first person recorded as having "proved up."

Abbie Gardner was doubtless the first white woman who ever entered the county.

The first white settler was probably James B. Churchill, and probably with him Charles B. Foster. When Mr. George H. Small came to the county and established his residence March 31, 1879, he found James B. Churchill in an old Indian log house near Armadale.

April 18, 1879, D. N. Hunt and L. J. Bancroft made settlement; May 1, 1879 Frank Beardsley and Roswell Bottum made settlement. Stanley Hall and James Warden made settlement on May 6, and October 1, 1879, respectively.

Frances Beetem, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Beetem, born January 23, 1880 was the first white child born in Spink County.

The first railroad reached the county in June of 1881, the Chicago & Northwestern from the south. The same road came into the county from the east in 1882. The Milwaukee came south to Ashton in 1881, and continued south in 1883. The Chicago & Northwestern went west in 1886.

The first white child born in Redfield was Redfield Bagge, whose parents were Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Bagge.

When the county was first organized, the office of auditor and register of deeds were merged and sometimes the officer was designated as County Clerk and sometimes as Register of Deeds in current conversation. The first two or three of these officers were called Register of Deeds. First to be called County Auditor was Benjamin Goodwin, Jr.

County Commissioners under Territorial law could grant or with-hold licenses. Though besieged in Spink County, they steadily refused to issue liquor licenses. Redfield organized in the spring of 1883 as a city with D. N. Hunt, the first mayor. The election issue was license or no license, with C. H. Myers being the no license candidate. A license was granted under the city charter, the first in the county.

The first term of court was held at Old Ashton in 1884.

J. A. Lang, the first postmaster in the county, at Hastings, was also the father of one of the first white children born in Spink County. The child Clarence Lang was born in June, 1880.

Mr. Edward O. Churton helped establish the first rural telephone communication in the county over barbed wire fences. This later became the LaDelle Telephone Company.

The Spink County Spy, the first paper in Frankfort, was edited in 1882 by E. Morgan from New York state. In 1884 he sold it to Mr. Tapley who changed the name to "Frankfort Advocate".

The stagecoach owned by Fred Rogers operated in Spink County from the summer of 1879 to the summer of 1882. It was driven a few times by J. P. Harlow and his friend Grady. "There were no serious accidents, holdups or even "let up" in 3½ years of service," "except in the winter of "the big snow," when it was idle for more than five months. The stage fare was $6.00 not including baggage. Star route for mail had been established sometime before from Watertown to Pierre by way of Belcher's Ford. Belcher's Ford was actually on the James River near Firesteel, about twenty-five miles north of Mitchell. The settlers in this part of Spink County wanted that route so they prepared maps and convinced the government that Belcher's Ford was on the James River between Redfield and Frankfort, and the mail was carried that way.

All of the territory between St. Paul & Yankton was once Dakota County.

At one time Spink County was the largest sheep raising county in the states east of the Missouri.

In the spring of 1882 there was a meeting of the Old Settlers of Spink County held at Ashton.

There never was a postoffice at Belcher's Ford or at Old Ashton.

D. N. Hunt was a soldier comrade of H. G. Rising, editor of Redfield's first newspaper, during the Civil War.

The medicine rock in Louis Kneisel's front yard on the banks of the James River was always painted and the Sioux Indians in passing took their sick there.

The Council Stone on the east bank of the James River, a few rods from the east end of the Runser Bridge, located about four miles north of Redfield, was a reddish granite boulder, almost round shape and approximately eight or ten inches in diameter. It was worn very smooth by constant handling.

A large colony of temperance people located at Old Ashton. M. J. Jarvis, the son of one of these people, upon arriving in Huron, found two newspapers and two saloons located on the bank of the James River, the only buildings there at that time. With the equipment he had brought with him he moved the building housing the Beadle County Settler, first newspaper in Huron, onto the townsite. The newspaper was owned by John Cain.

A squaw man with the colorful name of "Skitty Wah Boo John" was in the Spink county area in early days as was Bill Sandon and his pack of hounds, who traveled with General Custer.

A box car was the depot in which Lou Barrow's father first worked in Redfield. At this time, Sunday School services were held in a train coach in Redfield, and the engine bell was rung to call the meeting.

The Bradley Ferry was in use as late as 1883.

The blizzard of 1888 took eight lives in Spink County, but only one life was lost in Spink County in pioneer days because of tornadic action.

In each of two years in the 1880's eight hundred bushels of tomatoes were sold from an irrigated garden in Redfield.

In 1878, the county was surveyed and marked into townships and sections although townships were not named at this time. They were known by number only. Most of them received names in 1883.

Fisher's Grove was the place best known by early settlers in the county. Here fuel was obtained and material for the roofs of sod shanties. Early settlers held first church services and celebrations here.

Many speakers delivered their speeches here. Dwight L. Moody and Ira D. Sankey, the noted evangelists were among them.

Frank Fisher came from Alton, Illinois in the fall of 1878. A millwright by profession, with his knowledge of mills and dams he saw a big opportunity open on the James River. He planned to build a dam for the purpose of operating a flour mill. He worked months and spent a large amount of money. The government interrupted his work and contested his right, forcing him to discontinue and destroy the project.

Two hundred cavalrymen escorted Drifting Goose and his band to Crow Creek, in July, 1880. It was estimated that there were one hundred three members in the band.

For the most part, Spink County was populated by educated, successful people, not by the disgruntled and those who had been failures elsewhere.

The County Seat remained at Old Ashton until 1885 when it was moved to New Ashton where it stayed until the fall of 1887.

More than 50% of the land in the James River Valley was filed on during the years 1879 and 1880. No crops were raised during the summer of 1879. Not more than thirty inhabitants were living in the county that winter which was mild and almost free of snow.

Early settlers sometimes ground corn in coffee mill as provisions.

First Fourth of July Celebration was at Belcher's Ford, July 3, 1880. C. H. Myers was the orator. First game of baseball in Spink County between Belcher's Ford and Redfield—Belcher's Ford won. There were fireworks and a dance. Three hundred persons attended. Clyde celebrated on the 5th, and about the same number were present. In 1881 the railroads, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul from the north, and Chicago and Northwestern from the south, were completed and Redfield and Ashton became railroad towns.

In 1882 an influx of settlers, about 3,000 actual settlers, arrived. Northville, Mellette, Athol and Crandon boomed with the building of the Watertown branch of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, Belcher's Ford became Frankfort, and Doland came into existence.

In 1885 Ashton built a two-story building 48x72 with fire-proof vaults, the structure with grounds, costing nearly $10,000 and donated it to the county without taxation to the people of the county.

By Lars Printed at Ashton, Spink County.

"Dakota Territory, May 13, Wm. Jennings Bryan spoke from the Old Harlan Packard portico. Three United States Senators from Redfield.

U. S. Highways 212 and 281 and State Highways 20 and 27 are the main thoroughfares serving the county.

Redfield, the county seat, is located in the west-central part of the county. Other towns are Doland, Conde, Frankfort, Tulare, Turton, Brentford, Athol, Ashton, Northville, Mellette, Mansfield, Crandon, and a part of Hitchcock. Redfield is 72 miles west of Watertown, 41 miles south of Aberdeen, 120 miles northeast of Pierre, 49 miles northwest of Huron.

The county was named for S. L. Spink, Territorial Secretary and Delegate to Congress. By 1890 the county had over 10,000 residents.

In the 1880's a board of trade was organized, a college established, and a co-operative flour mill started.

The practice of picking up buffalo chips from the prairie was often facetiously referred to as getting "Oxoline". Some of the pioneers in the vicinity of Frankfort used "Smith Heaters", which were drums made for burning straw, manufactured by a hardware store in Frankfort, the owner of which was a man named Smith.

The home was a shanty 10x12 made with a single wall of lumber and sided on the outside with sod to the eaves as well as cover for the roof so that when the prairie fires came along we could dive into the shack, like a gopher finds his hole and comes out again, when the fire had passed, without any danger of the shack catching fire.

I learned fifty years later from one who took part in the prank that the County records were hidden under the floor of the hand-car house in Redfield where nobody suspected they would be hidden.

O. A. Olson, Fargo, North Dakota.

Honorable Frank I . Fisher of Frankfort was the first settler to behold the wonders of this land. He came up the river in a boat in 1878. He was selected as the first state senator from Spink County under a self-ordained constitution. Belcher's Ford, near Frankfort, was the first town in the county, and those who founded it in 1879 were: S. F. Hammond, Col. E. W. Foster, F. I. Fisher, F. W. Rogers, Mel and Frank Starr, Atwater

Bros., Lang Bros., Sidney Hastings, Harry Turner, L. Bancroft, and Al Gray.

Old Ashton: S. W. Bowman, Geo. Bowman, Lou Bowman, W. C. Smart, D. N. Hunt, and Philip Runser.

Clyde: Jeff Lower, W. H. Hedges, and the Sparlings.

Armadale (then Foster City): C. B. Foster, and J. B. Churchill.

Watertown: Trading point and land office for Spink County.

MEMORIAL DAY

Each Memorial Day since 1888 a Chicago & Northwestern train has come to an unscheduled stop on the lonely prairie near Elrod, South Dakota, about fifty miles east of Redfield, and, while passengers waited and wondered, the members of the crew have visited a tiny grave along the right-of-way. There, a moment of silence is observed, brief prayers said, and flowers laid on the grave. The trainmen return to their train, and the trip is resumed.

When curious passengers ask about the stop, they learn the story of how a railroad man's sympathetic understanding of a small boy's fascination for railroading led to a friendship that has been memorialized for more than sixty-six years, even though both the railroad man and the small boy have died.

The man's name was William F. Chambers, better known as "Big Bill" and the small boy is known only as "The Little Fellow". In 1888 Big Bill was a brakeman on the train hauling track ballast for repair work in the area. The little fellow was the twelve-year old son of the couple who had charge of the construction gang's kitchen and mess cars. Each day when Bill's train pulled into the camp, the boy ran to meet him and Chambers would spend hours telling him tales of the big cities and of railroading. Then, in August the boy became seriously ill and died. He was buried along the right of way and Bill promised the boy's parents he would take care of the grave until they returned and removed the boy's body. They didn't return, but Mr. Chambers kept his promise, when he became freight conductor and later passenger conductor; section crews helped him by keeping the grass and weeds from the spot, and someone placed a boulder to mark the grave.

Eventually Bill reached retirement age, yet he still visited the grave regularly on Memorial Day as long as he was able. Others took up the task for him and continued the practice after his death in 1939.

Vincent Ford, conductor, married Bill Chambers' daughter, Lydia. Every Memorial Day Ford took Chambers' place, until he too died. Together with the train crews, these people have kept the friendship of "Big Bill" and "The Little Fellow" alive.

For sixty-two years the Chicago & Northwestern's train No. 106 stopped on the prairie near Elrod, South Dakota, while passengers waited and wondered. They heard the story and saw the ceremony. Not once was a protest heard.

STRUGGLE FOR THE COUNTY SEAT

Perhaps the most vividly impressed of the incidents in early Spink

County history was the county seat dispute which was waged from 1880 to 1886, and which threatened to erupt into violence but for the calm thought and action of several community leaders.

While the county seat had several temporary locations, the real struggle was between Redfield and Ashton. At the election in 1880, a tie vote had been recorded. Since "Old Ashton" was five miles from a railroad, the location of the County seat there had been somewhat inconvenient for desirable location. In the elections of 1882 and 1884 a considerable amount of "ballot stuffing" had been practiced.

On the night of December 5, 1884, a group of Redfield men, on impulse, decided to go to Old Ashton to remove the records from the court house there and to bring them to Redfield. They developed an elaborate plan which they carried out "with pick and crowbar", and in the process aroused the family living in an adjacent section of the building and also the Assistant Register of Deeds who lived nearby. An alert was sent out to Ashton and to the people living in the north and eastern part of the county. They felt outraged, and, choosing Old Ashton as a rendezvous, they planned a "March on Redfield", securing additional recruits enroute. In the interval, an Ashton constable, Brad Wallar, had made an unsuccessful attempt to arrest Mayor Hunt of Redfield. Redfield men had moved the county records to the upper story of the city hall building, removed the stairs, and placed guards on duty, made an excavation beneath the first floor of the building into which they had lowered the confiscated safe, and made ready for the rumored attack on the part of enraged county citizens.

The mayor had also telegraphed Gilbert Pierce, the Territorial Governor, asking for the aid of the militia, which Pierce promptly sent by special train from Fargo.

Attorney C. T. Howard had proposed that affidavits be prepared seeking a temporary injunction to restrain the mob from taking the records by force, and calling on the opposition to show cause why the injunction should not be made permanent. This plan was approved, and F. A. Dawes, a Redfield banker, Bert Briggs, and Attorney Howard went by chartered train engine to Watertown, and then by team to Milbank where Circuit Judge Smith was then holding Court, to secure the necessary papers. The trip was made in a very few hours.

The arrival of the militia reinforcements, and the return of the Redfield attorney and his party, served to turn the tide in the impending violence in which 1000 to 2000 county men had taken up location at the edge of Redfield to defend their rights.

The altering of the 1880 poll book, which seemed to indicate that Redfield had won in the original election by twenty-five votes, a fraud unknown to most of the Redfield participants, seemed to them additional reason for retaining the records at Redfield.

THE INDIAN SCARE OF 1882.

In June, 1882 the northern part of the state experienced an Indian scare as the result of a joke perpetrated on two young German workers who had settled near Redfield. It was at the time of the ghost dance craze among the Indians, and many people were "jittery". A group headquartered at a hotel at what was later LaFoon, 30 miles west of Redfield, decided to play a joke on the two young Germans whom they had employed to "do their breaking' by frightening them with a pretended Indian attack. The feigned attack went off as scheduled and sufficiently frightened the one young man that he swam a creek and sprinted to Redfield in his bare feet in about five hours. The shouts and shots of those who followed, trying to attract his attention to call off the joke, only served to confirm his conviction that the Indians were in relentless pursuit.

Upon arrival in Redfield he told such a convincing story that armed parties started out to attempt to check the uprising. The Superintendent of the Dakota Division of the Chicago and Norhwestern Railway at Huron was alerted, and he ordered out special trains from Brookings and Pierre to bring volunteers. The Pierre train with 150 armed men aboard reached Redfield at about the time the returning scouts reported the true nature of the incident, but for weeks elaborate versions of the story spread to neighboring communities, giving the inhabitants some anxious days and sleepless nights.

INDICATIONS OF COAL AND GAS.

In 1882, a Welsh miner, James Bushell, who had located at Northville, was employed by the city of Ashton to dig a well. At a depth of 67 feet his pick struck smooth shale rock at which a rushing sound, followed by an explosion, occured. He immediately extinguished a lighted candle, which he had placed on a shingle inserted in the wall, but the gas had already ignited and enveloped him in flames. Giving one cry and closing his mouth to keep flames from his lungs, and grasping a rope, he climbed hand over hand to a position above the flames while a horse-drawn pulley device pulled him to safety. Though severely burned, he eventually recovered. Later the Bowman Hotel in Ashton was heated with gas piped from a nearby well.

In the fall of 1887 John and Dennis Clifford, living equidistant between Ashton and Redfield struck gas while drilling a two-inch well. They later piped it to their home to use for cooking purposes.

Traces of lignite coal also were found in the county, the largest deposits of which were just west of Redfield, the usual locations being discovered in beds of creeks, and in well digging.

THE FIRST ANNUAL FAIR OF SPINK COUNTY.

The first annual fair of Spink County Agricultural Society was held at Redfield, Dakota, September 25, through the 27th, 1883. The Fair Program indicated its purpose to be as follows:

To The People:

This Fair is designed to increase the interest of farmers in their vocation, to encourage the adoption of better methods in farming, to enable farmers to secure better breeds of stock, better and greater varieties of farm products, and to advance all the interests of the people of the entire county. It is hoped that everyone in the county will attend and help make its success sure.

A cordial invitation is extended to other counties to join us in this fair, and help us to succeed.

Admission rates were listed thus:

Season Tickets, $1.00
Single Tickets, good for one admission only, .50c
Children under 12 years, .25c
Children under 8 years, with parents, admitted free
Tickets admitting double team, .25c
Single horse and carriage or saddle horse, .25c
Each occupant of a vehicle must present a ticket of admission
Hack privileges per day, $2.00

Officers of the Fair were: H. P. Packard, President; B. W. Briggs, Secretary; C. D. Friberg, Treasurer; G. C. Hunt, Marshall; W. P. Bement, Superintendent of Forage; C. T. Howard, Superintendent of Main Hall; J. J. Hough, Superintendent of Horses, Jacks & Mules; W. C. Kiser, Superintendent of Cattle; J. M. Beidleman, Superintendent of Swine; J. Warden, Superintendent of Sheep; H. Emery, Superintendent of Poultry; E. W. Foster, Superintendent of Machinery; C. H. Myers, Superintendent of Farm Products; R. S. Hadley, Superintendent of Merchandise; S. W. Bowman, Superintendent of Manufactures; Mrs. R. S. Hadley, General Superintendent of Ladies' Dep't.; Mrs. J. H. Allen, Superintendent of Canned Fruits and Relish; Mrs. Alex Clark, Superintendent of Jellies, Jams & Butters; Mrs. J. M. Miles, Superintendent of Paintings, Drawings, etc.; Mrs. C. H. Myers, Superintendent of Flowers and Birds; Mrs. F. O. Case, Superintendent Dairy and Kitchen; Mrs. S. S. Bateman, Superintendent Household Fabrics; Mrs. L. A. Pratt, Superintendent of Girls' Department.

The exhibit offerings in the several departments were interesting and rather elaborate for a pioneer area. In addition to the many horse and carriage races, entertainment was provided by a mule race, foot races, a rifle shooting match, and baseball games. Several bands furnished music.

The Fair theme seemed to be: "Competition to the World."

Advertisements in the Fair Program gave interesting sidelights. L. Adler & Co. declared themselves as the only exclusive clothiers of the James River Valley who handled their own manufactured clothing.

E. W. Foster, dealer in agricultural implements, sold the Plano Harvester and Binder, the Cassady Sulky and Rushford and Whitewater wagons.

The Redfield Journal, official paper of Spink County, had a yearly subscription rate of $2.00.

The Farmers & Merchants Bank of Redfield which had opened for business ten days before the Fair, indicated some of its services to be: negotiating loans, furnishing money to make final proofs, buying and selling real estate, selling emigrant tickets to and from Europe, and paying taxes for non-residents.

A. Hermann of Holmes Street made boots and shoes to order.

THE LAST BUFFALO HUNT

About July 10, 1882, several citizens of Redfield went west toward the Missouri River on a hunting trip. Frank I. Fisher, John J. Hough and Thomas MacMullen were of the party. After reaching Faulk County they struck the trail of buffalo, and they followed this trail for some distance. There were about sixteen buffalo in the herd.

Finally after going up into northwestern Faulk County, they met one buffalo. This animal did not seem to be very frightened, so they followed him and at night went into camp, and in the morning they discovered the buffalo not far from camp, and they gave chase once more.

Mr. Hough had with him an old white bird-dog, named Veto, and the old dog ran along with the buffalo and seemed to enjoy the sport. Finally they caught up with the buffalo and shot him. They divided up the animal as follows: Mr. Hough took the meat; McMullen took the hide; and Mr. Fisher the head. Mr. Hough brought the meat to Redfield and put it upon the market, and we all had a taste of buffalo meat.

Mr. Fisher took the head and had it mounted and presented it to Spink County, and it is now one of the objects of interest in the Museum at Redfield, after having been displayed for many years in the Court House.

This buffalo was the last buffalo probably shot within a distance of seventy-five miles of Redfield.

MYSTERY LIGHTS

As the "flying saucer" stories fascinate and intrigue the people of the Twentieth Century, so were the "mysterious lights" the subject of concern and speculation to the early pioneers.

This is an account by Swan Johnson, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, who was pioneering in Dakota Territory for several years.

As he was walking home across the prairie late one evening, bouncing balls of fire skipped all around him, appearing here and there and sometimes varied in color. It didn't matter whether he ran or walked, they appeared sometimes close and again in the distance. It was a terrifying experience which he never forgot.

In the northern part of Clifton Township, it was our habit to look toward the south every night to see if the "lights were burning". It was as if a tall slender bush were burning, such as was described in the Bible, yet it was never consumed—we children speculated as to why the straw stack never burned down.

It is reported that several men spent the night driving around, determined to locate the fire, or find out what it was, but it would always disappear, and their efforts were futile.

It seemed that these unaccountable lights, also called "will-o-the-wisp' 'and "Elmo's fires," that bothered many pioneers, were a harmless gas escaping from the ground, which was luminous at night and invisible during the day.

TORNADO OF 1898.

During the summer of 1898, the Moriarty family moved to a farm four or five miles away, where they had a new and large home waiting for them. However this moving day was tinged with sadness. The older children shed tears at saying goodbye to the little home that had sheltered them in times of both joy and sorrow.

Hardly had they stepped inside the new home, when it became dark as night, the lightning flashed, the thunder roared, the rain dashed against the windows and doors, the house was moved from its foundation tumbling the children to the floor. A tornado had struck!

It was all over in a few minutes—it left as suddenly as it had come. The storm was gone, and with it was the barn with the horses, the sheep corral and the sheep. The horses were found the next day still tied to pieces of the mangers, and most of the sheep were recovered, but scarcely a stick of the barn was to be found.

TRAGEDY IN 1897.

One day early in May of 1897, one of the sons of Franz and Caroline Barz went to the well for water. The bucket had fallen into the well, hence he went down to get it but failed to return. His brother, wondering what had happened, went down to get him. When neither of the boys, Frank and Reinhold, came up with the bucket of water, the father, Franz Barz, in his excitement, followed them to find out what had happened. He too did not return.

The Mother, Caroline, called her husband's brother, Christrick, to come and help. When he came, she begged him not to go into the well, saying, "There are enough down there already," but he insisted and took a rope down with him. When he had lowered himself into the hole, he hollered "Gas", and let go of the rope. Had the rope been tied around his body he probably could have been rescued.

These four men who lost their lives are buried in the Clifton cemetery.

(Told by Ida Barz.)

A STEAM ENGINE BLOWS UP

Henry Vanderbilt now owns the land one-half mile south of West school in Clifton Township, once called the old Taylor quarter, one-half mile south of Eph Williams. It was on this land that an old steam engine blew up in 1885 and killed five people. The machine was owned by Charles and James Fridley and Fay Wallar. One person killed was a little boy, a bolt had been driven through his body. The impact of the explosion pushed one man into the feeder of the separator.

Bert Lewis was a boy at that time and he was out hunting prairie chickens not too far from the threshing machine, and he heard the terrific explosion. He started to run to the machine. On his way there, he stumbled over the upper half of a man's body. From this we gathered the man's body was blown to pieces. The Fridley Brothers escaped death.

The following is a paragraph from a letter to Henrietta Sandquist from Len Fridley: "Now about that threshing rig that blew up in 1885. It was owned by your dad and Fay Wallar. Smith, the engineer, didn't stop until the water was low in the boiler, and then left the fire in while waiting for the water hauler. When the water hauler came, Smith pumped cold water into the hot boiler, which blew all to pieces. One part blew under the separator foot board and burned the separator. C. H. Detterich, you remember him, was one of the feeders. They fed the grain into the cylinder by hand. He lay down on the foot board for a nap. Most of the crew were at the engine for a drink.

"I don't remember how many were killed. One was a boy. Smith wasn't hurt much. Within the next year or two, your grandfather bought a rig and threshed for several years. He tended the separator and your dad was engineer. I stacked straw some of the time and also piled straw in the straw-burning engine. There was no self-feeder, straw-blower or grain elevator at that time. Grain came out into a half-bushel basket placed on the ground."

(Told by Grace Vanderbilt.)

CLIFTON CENTER LITERARY SOCIETY. 1883.

Mrs. Grace Lewis Bloomhall Vanderbilt handed the minutes to Mrs. Grace E. Taylor Sanden, to copy in part for the Centennial.

"On December 13th, 1883, a meeting was called to order by Mrs. A. P. Cloyd. Mrs. Walker was elected Chairman. The following were elected: President, Mrs. Frank Fassett, Vice President, M. M. Diggins, Secretary, E. D. Roberts, Treasurer, Miss Alice Anderson. (The dues were ten cents—due Dec. 1st, each year.)

The following were appointed to form the Constitution and By-Laws: E. N. Graves, Wm. Chadwick, and J. R. Sheetz.

The meeting adjourned until Friday evening. (They met in Schoolhouse No. 3, every Friday evening.)

The programs were approved and planned at each meeting for the next meeting. Many debates were held, fine musical and other talent; at times outsiders took part to make these meetings the social center of Clifton Township.

The first program was as follows: Speech by the President; Song by Miss Hattie West, Dec. by E. N. Graves, Select Reading by A. P. Cloyd, Dec. by Fred Chadwick, Song by Miss Fannie Cloyd, Dec. by John West, Dec. by Jake Graves, Dec. by Arthur Chadwick, Select reading by Dan Lewis, Dec. by Miss Stella Cloyd, Dec. by Mr. John Anderson, song by John Cloyd, Dec. by Lew West, Select Reading by Miss Maggie Roberts, Dec. by Mr. M. M. Diggins, Song by George Henchette, Dec. by Bert Lewis, Select Reading by Gilbert Straw, Dec. by Henry Austin.

Some of the subjects for debate were: Resolved that the Prohibition of Intoxicating Liquor is preferable to a high license law giving the sale of the same.. The affirmative was A. P. Cloyd and Mr. Frank Fassett, those debating on the negative were E. N. Graves and John Fassett. The affirmative won the debate.

At the meeting on December 21, 1883, the Constitution and By-Laws were adopted and a motion carried that the Society be called the Clifton Centre Literary Society.

At a meeting held Jan. 1, 1884, the question for debate was: Resolved that it was for the best interests of the people of Dakota to be IMMEDIATELY admitted as a State. The affirmative were: E. N. Graves and Mr. Davis, against A. P. Cloyd and he won. The collection that evening was 78 cents.

There were many other excellent debates too numerous to mention, except the one where all the ladies became involved, the subject for which debate was: Resolved that the extension of Elective Franchise to Women will tend to the moral, social, and political elevation of the people. The affirmative was: Mr. Diggins and Mrs. Graves, the negative Mr. Graves and Mr. A. P. Cloyd. The affirmative won.

At one time, ten debated on the question: "There is more Pleasure in Pursuit than in Possession".

For membership we find starting with 1883 the following names:

J. A. Fassett, A. P. Cloyd, J. T. Roberts, E. N. Graves, Evan Davis, Jake Graves, C. F. Graves, Fannie Cloyd, Esther Roberts, Daisy Homes, Cora Roberts, Fannie Anderson, Mr. Wm. Diggins, A. J. Anderson, Gust Anderson, John Anderson, Sollie Fassett, Osen Fassette, E. D. Roberts, Emma A. Taylor, G. O. Straw, Mrs. L. E. Graves, Hattie West, John A. Crusan, Henry Austin, Andrew Bartholomew, Maude E. Hinckley, Stella Cloyd, Robert T. Lee, W. S. West, George McAllister, James Sheetz, Lizzie Sheetz, Kate Chadwick, Fred Chadwick, Mrs. Cloyd, Bert Lewis, Johnnie Cloyd, Mrs. Nettie Fassett, Mrs. Bertha Austin, Helen West, Even Roberts, N. W. Nake, R. W. Baker, E. C. Richards, John West, Charles Wendt, C. A. Wertzbaugher, Ina Wertzbaugher, Bert Gilson, Emily Black, Ed. Estabrook, Henry Austin, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Freddie Brelsford, J. Crusan, Ira Ewing, Frank Bastian, J. Crusan, Miss Chandler, George Hanchett, The Clifton Band, W. E. Berkey, C. G. Sheetz, Miss Lena Bastian, Mr. Hedges, Miss Maggie Howes, Henry Hausel, Miss Lottie Maloy, James Thomas.

Miss Almira Pierce, A. E. Beaumont, John Boub, Mary H. Justice, Charles H. Justice, J. L. McCart, George Hamilton, A. D. Downs, James Thomas, Annie Roberts, Susie Roberts, Dock Haik, A. P. Downer, Henry Baker, Jim Bressau, Henry Hansel, Nina Fassett, Bob Baker, Music, Mr. Lovejoy, Instrumental; Mary Brosseau, J. A. Crusan, Singing by Mrs. Sheetz and Miss Peck. On Feb. 19, 1885, bought an organ and the rafters rang with group singing. Mira Pierce. Mr. Malloy, Mr. Wilson, Charlie Pierce, Mr. L. Jones (song) Mrs. Sheridan, (song); Bert Sheetz, Miss Hawkins (Ella) Frank Bastian, S. B. Coutts, Lew West, Orchestra; Mrs. Belton, (song); Howard Hughes, Mr. Basler, George Boyer, C. A. Erickson, Lloyd Boyer, Fred Carrier, O. Bloomhall, Sorenson, Bert Bloomhall, Mr. Wales, Brown, Willie Barnes, Chas, Wendt, Andrew West, Mary Brosseau, Nellie Brosseau, Jerry Barabo, Ferd Bastian, Irvin Bastian, Abner Downey, Callie Coutts, Clarence Coutts, Mable Baker, Mr. Black, Renold Barz, Walter Bastian, Otto Barz, Rob Bakers, Miss Main, Cora Keer, Jessie Keer, C. A. Erickson, Cuthbert & Main, Music, L. L. Hodge, Maud Malloy, Lee Coutts.

When Bert Lewis was Secretary he wrote: Poor Ink. Poor Pen. Poor Writer. AMEN."

TRIP TO HURON

In 1880-1881 three Basford brothers, Fred A., J. K. and H. R. lived in a small shack, northeast quarter Section 11, Township 115, Range 63. Three Coolidge brothers, Warren, Charles and Frank lived one mile west and three miles north. One mile north of them lived Levi Lincoln and family. Having been in Dakota earlier, he brought his family in the spring of 1880. The abundant supply of potatoes, pork and flour which they brought with them proved most useful when the people of the county were reduced to wheat and rutabagas because of the severe winter. This supply also provided seed potatoes for the following season.

During the middle of March, 1881, Wm. West of Clifton Township, Ira Bowman, a mail carrier from Old Ashton, Cal Spencer and D. N. Hunt went to Huron to purchase flour and other supplies. It was a hazardous trip. The second night out they slept in a snow house dug in about ten feet of snow over which a tent was spread. They took turns sleeping at two hour intervals, while the others walked to keep up circulation since it was an extremely cold night. Three of the men went snow blind. At James Valley Junction they followed the newly-laid track, bumping over the ties, and thus giving advance warning to the people of Huron that they were coming by the rumbling of the wagon wheels.

At Huron they purchased 3,000 lbs. of flour and other supplies. Deciding that they could not make the return trip on wheels they built two snow boats, boards ten feet long and turned up at the front. They bolted these to scantling frame by which to haul the load, the boards serving as runners. Each boat had a load of about 1800 lbs. After the first few hours, when the crust of snow had softened, the progress was slowed, and the rest of the way to Old Ashton was a matter of wallowing in snow, a process which was very hard on both horses and men.

CHERISHED PORTRAITS

Chapter IX

Biography is the only true history—Emerson.

A people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote generations—Macaulay.

SPINK COUNTY PIONEER'S GREETING.

We meet again, old Pioneers,
Our friendship still to show,
We greet again each old time friend,
Of the days of long ago.
We think again of olden days,
The days when we were young,
We'll talk again of joy and pain,
And the songs that we have sung.
We'll keep our memories ever fresh,
Of those we'll see no more,
We'll stand together 'til the end,
As in the days of yore.
Now, here's my hand, old Pioneer,
Give me your hand so true,
We'll shake for our old friendship's sake,
And here's much joy to you.
(A poem given by Mrs. Georgia M. Spain.)

CONRAD JOHN ALBRECHT.

Conrad John Albrecht arrived on the prairies of Harrison Township on June 2, 1886, to find claim shanties and sod houses dotting the landscape. He chose the Southwest Quarter of Section 14, which was ten miles south and two miles west of Doland, for his home.

Among the settlers already there were Mrs. Albrecht's brother, Leonard Hoffman, who settled on the Northeast Quarter of Section 22; Herbert C. Cobb, Dr. McGee, Ed. Crabb, Henry Sears, Millard Gaskill, Tom Lawrie, Gus Wall, James Fryer, Charles Sample, Charles Kline, and three others whose first names cannot be recalled: Story, Martin, and Budhoff. Of all of these, only the name of Albrecht remains in the Township in 1961—seventy-five years later.

While building a house on the new site, the Albrechts lived with the Hoffmans in their small claim shanty on the hill across the way, where now stand the buildings erected by the late Fred Albrecht. As is typical of the Europeans, the buildings were placed where they would not take up any more tillable land than necessary, in this case on the brink of a hill. John Albrecht couldn't see any of that flat land occupied by buildings, and the house was later moved a few rods west. He built a retaining wall along the north and east of the house—stones without mortar. He had a talent for laying stones and was hired by other settlers to lay- up the walls of their wells—stones so laid that the pressure of each against the other held them all in place. The well on his place, now filled, was so laid. The barns and other buildings for several years were merely straw sheds.

For a number of years no fences existed on the place aside from a small enclosure near the straw-barn. The one horse and one ox were picketed out each noon and at night. This, besides carrying water to them, was a job for the children. Later there were three oxen. With no fences, herding was a common job for the children. All of the Albrechts children spent some years of their young lives at this task, either at home or for the neighbors. Fred, for example, herded for Mr. Sears. Although he lived only a little more than two miles away, Fred (11 years old) was not permitted to go home for weeks at a time; his was a seven-days-a-week job. Mr. Albrecht walked over to visit him on Sundays, but Fred still wanted "to go home to see Mother". As if that wasn't enough to break the heart of any little boy, he was paid in calves at the end of the season which had to be sold to pay the taxes.

Tragedy struck often at the door of the pioneers. The infant Mary died that first fall. Of the four children born to John and Eva Albrecht in their new home in America, two died in infancy. Mrs. Albrecht, too, was called away from her family of eight children, September 22, 1893. Three years later, the oldest son, Leonard, was stricken with tuberculosis, and died June 18, 1896. After the mother's death, Minnie (Wilhelmina) took over the major part of the housekeeping duties until her untimely death August 23, 1901. She was also a victim of tuberculosis.

The diet was simple in this household. Store purchases consisted of sugar, coffee, and salt. All other food was produced on the farm. Grain was taken to the mill in Frankfort to be ground into flour. A large garden was raised. Poultry produced the eggs and part of the meat needed. A steer and one hog were killed each year for family use. Then, of course, there was milk, cream, and butter. With no refrigeration, the milk was often eaten as cottage cheese or what would seem to us to be unpalatable, clabbered milk, with or without bread.

Louise, the thirteen-year-old did all the bread baking. In the summer time, all went well with the baking, but in winter when fires were not kept over night, the dough chilled and a hard tough bread resulted.

Soon after the Albrechts arrived, a school was built on one acre in the southwest corner of the Albrecht quarter. All of the children, with the exception of Barbara, who completed her formal education in Germany before coming to America, attended school here. At first, the terms were short three months in the early winter and perhaps three in the spring. Not only were the children desirous of getting an American education, but Mrs. Albrecht was also eager to learn the English language. She would come to the school and the teacher would devote the recesses to helping her read the Bible. With the many mouths to feed, John was more interested in getting the work done so that there would be food and clothing and a warm place for his growing family.

John Albrecht owned and operated the same farm until 1912, when he rented it to his son-in-law, Burton Lounsberry. He then moved to Stetsonville, Wisconsin. It was there that he died in April, 1916. He was brought back to Harrison Township and buried beside his wife in the Irving Cemetery.

PARKER ALLEN ALDRICH.

Parker Allen Aldrich was born February 14, 1863, at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin and came with his parents, Allen and Elizabeth Parker Aldrich to Dakota Territory in 1881. Two sisters, Mrs. John Lang and Mrs. Frank Burgess had come to the Territory at an earlier date.

The Aldrich land was in Belle Plaine and Prairie Center Townships. The father, Allen Aldrich, who was a carpenter, built several houses in the community, and later moved to Watertown where he spent the remainder of his life.

Parker Aldrich married Janet Morse, of Osage, Iowa, who at that time was living with her sister, Mrs. W. G. Boden in Prairie Center Township. Six children were born to them, the oldest dying in infancy. In 1907 Mrs. Aldrich died and in 1919 Mr. Aldrich married Alice Redman of Omaha, Nebraska. She died in 1945.

Mr. Aldrich became a successful farmer, and owned several farms. In 1913 he purchased a 10,000 bushel elevator at Doland which he, with the help of his two sons, operated in connection with his farms.

He was one of the largest stock raisers in the community, shipping carloads of cattle, pigs, and sheep yearly. In later years, he bought stock to fatten and sell. He was a good judge of livestock. One day he bought some cattle from a neighbor and suggested they save a trip into town by having him guess their weight. The neighbor thought it would be better business to drive into town and have them weighed properly. The animals weighed exactly the weight Mr. Aldrich had estimated.

Mr. Aldrich was a stockholder in the re-organized Security State Bank in Doland and its President for many years.

In 1950 he left his farm home and moved to Doland. With the help of his older son, who remained on the family farm, Mr. Aldrich managed his elevator and farms. He died August 18, 1952, at the age of 89 years in the Memorial Hospital at Watertown. He is survived by three daughters: Mrs. Floyd Paul, of Brookings; Mrs. Harold Kline, of Doland; and Mrs. Fred McDaniel of Omaha, Nebraska; and his two sons, Aaron of Omaha, Nebraska and Ira of Doland, South Dakota.

ARCHIBALD QUINN ALLBEE.

Born in Springfield, New York, January 21, 1858.

When nine years of age, he, with his family, moved to Wisconsin, and lived near Cashton, Wisconsin.

In 1882 he came to Spink County to take up a claim in Tetonka Township, the Southwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 119, Range 63, where he lived until 1900 when he moved to Mellette, after the death of his wife in April, 1900.

He, together with his son, later owned a small grocery store, was deputy sheriff of Spink County, and lived at Mellette, until his death in 1934.

He had two children, Edith M. Allbee, born December 11, 1885, and Howard W. Allbee, born August 12, 1887, living at Aberdeen, South Dakota.

E. H. ALLEN FAMILY

E. H. Allen came from Ohio to Wisconsin with oxen long before the Civil War. When the war broke out he enlisted in the 29th Volunteer Infantry, Company I, and served three years.

After the war he married Alvira Kinne who came from Vermont, and five children were born to them, three boys and two girls. The oldest child, a girl, died at the age of seven years.

The writer, James R. Allen, was born August 9, 1897 on a farm three miles from Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. My father, E. H. Allen, came to Dakota Territory in the fall of 1879, and took the homestead on which I still live. He also took up a tree claim, he built a sod house, dug a well, and then went back to Wisconsin for the family. We moved to Dakota Territory in May, 1880, in an immigrant car. The car was loaded with yoke of oxen, one cow, one horse, a breaking plow and a wagon, besides a few household goods.

We came as far as Watertown which was the end of the railroad at that time. My mother and we children came the rest of the way by stage, and my father came with the oxen and the supplies. We stayed the first night in Dakota Territory in the hotel on the river bank, called Belcher's Ford. That is where we forded the river. This place is now known as Fisher's Grove State Park.

We then came from the hotel to our own new home, which was and still is, four and one half miles southwest of Frankfort, located on Section 13, Township 116, Range 63, Lodi Township.

You could live on the homestead seven years without paying taxes on it, or you could "prove up" on it, in five years, and get your deed from the Government. For the tree claim, you had to have a certain number of trees on it before you could "prove up". That fall the railroad was extended to Huron and my father hauled his coal from there. It took him eight days with two yoke of oxen to make a round trip. He brought back two loads of coal, driving both teams by himself.

We built a sod barn a short distance from the shanty. This had a sod wall running from the shanty to the barn, as a shelter. The first winter was a hard one with much snow. Many mornings when we opened the shanty door, it was drifted full, which meant that we had to keep a shovel in the house to dig our way out. Some of the people had to haul hay on hand sleds two or three miles to feed the stock and some had to burn twisted hay for heat.

In the winter of 1880-81 the snow was so deep that they couldn't get through with the oxen.

We lived in a sod house two summers and one winter, and then we built a story and a half frame house 16x24, in which we still live.

There was a schoolhouse a mile west of us that the children attended. In 1884 they built a schoolhouse half a mile north and half a mile west of us, which is now school District No. F-4 and is still standing. This is where I first went to school. I went the first term which was about two months when I was four years old. Our teacher's name was Laura Cushman. In that school, I received the education I have, with the exception of one year, 1899, I attended Agricultural College at Brookings, and took a steam-engine course in blacksmithing. My mother and I lived on the farm after that, and I farmed it. Then because she was in poor health, we leased it for three years. I worked on the farm much of the time, although we lived in Frankfort. We built a house in Frankfort, and had just finished it when she died in 1905 at the age of 62 years. I then sold the house and returned to farming. By this time, my brothers and sisters were married. In 1907, at the age of 27 years, I was married to Edith Lidtke. Both of her parents were born in Germany, and had come to this country in 1867, settling in Wisconsin, and on December 16, 1878, they were married in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Six children were born, Edith (my wife), born in Juneau, Wisconsin, on February 28, 1882. Her family and she moved to Dakota Territory in the fall of 1882 and settled three miles south of Frankfort, where they built a small frame house and a sod barn.

While they were building the place, they stayed with their grandmother, who had come the year before. Edith lived on this place fourteen years, and then moved across the river to what is now known as the Filipek place.

We have six children, all of whom are still living, two girls and four boys. All are married and have families of their own, except one boy who is still at home with us. My father died in 1920.

I have farmed most of the time up to the last three years. My son, Doane, farms it now, although I still live on the farm, where I have lived since the spring of 1880. I had a school office in this district for twenty-five years, served on the township board two terms, and did the assessing for six years in this Township, Lodi.

REMINISCENCES

When I was a young boy, we had good fishing and hunting. There were plenty of prairie chickens, ducks and geese in the spring of the year as they were going north. There were many fish in the river. We could catch northerns, pike, perch, bullheads, and sunfish.

Later in years, as our children grew up, they went to the same school I had attended. When I attended this school, there were no grades; you studied the same book until you finished it, then received another, and there were no report cards.

I also recall the big blizzard of January 12, 1888. There was no school in our district that day; we all happened to be at home when the blizzard struck.

I had my first automobile in 1910 and up to the present time I have never had an accident. My first tractor was purchased in 1918.

In the spring of 1896, because all of the other bridges had been washed out in the flood, we had to walk to Frankfort to get our mail and groceries and cross on the railroad bridge. There were no trains from Frankfort to Redfield all summer long. The water raised in Gumbo Sag enough to lift the track from the grade. That winter we fished through the ice, catching fish that had run in from the river into Gumbo Sag.

I have lived in South Dakota all of my life and still like South Dakota. I am the oldest continuous resident in the Township and perhaps in the County.

MR. AUGUST ANDERSEN

Mr. August Andersen, one of the oldest business men of Redfield, was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, September 3, 1880. As a young man of 19 years, he immigrated to the U.S.A., arriving in New York City, April 26, 1899.

Through an employment agency in New York, he was given a job on a truckgarden farm in Redbank, New Jersey. He was sent there by Wells Fargo, as he could speak no English at that time. During the next few years, he also worked in different hotels as bus boy and as waiter in the Hotel Buckingham.

After a lengthy illness of typhoid fever, he decided to go west, and arrived in Fulton, Illinois where he engaged in farming. In 1902 he left Illinois and came to Webster, South Dakota, where he also farmed. In addition, he drove the school bus for two seasons, and later started a small business of dry cleaning.

In 1907 he left Webster, going to Clinton, Iowa where he also started a dry cleaning business, together with an older brother, who had just arrived with his family from Denmark. During his stay in Clinton, Mr. Andersen worked as a coachman for Mr. Dewitt Lamb, a lumber king.

In 1908, during the money panic, he quit business, going back to New York where he worked at any job available including steward aboard ship on the American-Scandinavian Line.

In 1909, his mother, Mrs. Sophie Andersen, arrived in this country. She had been traveling in Finland and Germany teaching dry cleaning as a business, since 1875. With his mother in America, he and his brothers started a dye soap factory, the original Rit dye soap which she had originated. Due to lack of capital, the venture failed and their patent was picked up by the present Rit Dye Soap Co.

In 1910 Mr. Andersen returned to Copenhagen and brought his only sister back to this country. At that time, he also met his sister's friend, who was later to become his wife. Mr. Andersen, together with his mother and sister arrived in Redfield, where he then started his present dry cleaning business, being located at that time on North Main Street, where the Krause Studio is now located.

The elaborate equipment at that time consisted of one five-gallon can of gasoline, one dish-pan, and a flat-iron which had to be heated on the stove.

In 1911 there was a complete crop failure and Mr. Andersen left his mother and a younger brother in charge of the business and went to Winnipeg, Canada where he worked at the Hotel Royal Alexander to help support the business. The younger brother now runs a dry cleaning business in Webster, South Dakota, with his son. This is Mr. Marinus Andersen and son Herluf.

During the year 1914, the Andersens started a soap factory in connection with the dry cleaning, but because of World War I, and the lack of materials, it was closed. From 1910 to 1915 the business moved from the original location to the location where the Zeitler Appliance Store now is, and a line of luggage, and a line of Wear-U-Well shoes were added.

They then moved to the building where they operated until 1956, at which time they completed the change to the present Drive-in Cleaners.

For ten years Mr. Andersen served on the City Council.

In 1913, his sister's friend, Miss Hedvig Kollewe, arrived in Redfield, and they were married by Rev. Father George MacConnachie. Mr. and Mrs. Andersen have five children, Alice (Mrs. Wm. Schap) of Redfield; Ejner C., Paul C., Sylvia (Mrs. John Trish); and John, who is now associated with his father in the business at Redfield.

In 1960 Mr. Andersen celebrated his 80th birthday and 50 years in business in Redfield.

A. G. ANDERSON

A. G. Anderson, came from Rockford, Illinois (where he had lived for a few years after he immigrated from Sweden) and homesteaded in 1881 on Dry Run in Clifton Township in Spink County. He hauled lumber for his house from Watertown by team, a distance of seventy-five miles, and the nearest railroad point.

He returned to Illinois after he had built the house, and in the spring of 1882 he and his family came to the homestead. The immigrant car which he shipped from Illinois was one of the cars on the first train that came to Aberdeen. As soon as the railroad was extended to Ashton, that became the location for purchasing supplies and receiving mail.

During the summer of 1882 a schoolhouse known as the Graves School was built one mile south of his homestead. Here his two youngest children, Fanny and Gust, attended school.

His oldest son, John, homesteaded near Turton. A. G. Anderson's oldest daughter, Alice, married Nels Sevall, who built and operated a livery stable in Ashton. In later years, this was the George Wilhelm Livery Stable. Mr. and Mrs. Sevall and daughter, Fanny, went to Canada in 1892 and homesteaded near Prince Albert.

There were many hardships in these early days. Not long after Mr. Anderson came to the homestead, his wife died. Two years later, his two youngest children became ill and died, a day apart; both funerals were held on the same day. Since there was no cemetery, they buried them on the homestead, as they had buried his wife.

A few years later, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Chadwick and Mr. Lewis fenced and plotted out the Clifton Cemetery one mile south and three-fourths of a mile west of his homestead. He then moved the bodies of his wife and children to this cemetery.

In March, 1886, he married Gertie Alstrom. They had two children, Oscar and Nellie. Mr. Anderson died in August, 1903. In the fall of 1908, the family moved to Ashton. Mrs. Anderson died there in April, 1921.

MRS. LILLIAN ATHA

My parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Basford, came from Shelburn, Vermont, in 1881 and homesteaded in Lodi Township twelve miles southeast of the present Redfield. At that time there was only one person who lived in Redfield, a man who lived alone in his sod house on the banks of Turtle Creek. Most of the trading of these early settlers was done in Crandon, a town at that time of about two or three hundred population.

I was born April 27, 1883 in a sod house on my parents' homestead. For eight years I attended the Dow School (the building still stands) six miles southeast of Redfield.

At the age of seventeen, I answered an advertisement to teach a country school in McPherson County. After teaching in this German-Russian community for a year, I attended a six-weeks summer session for teachers at Huron College, and returned in the fall to teach the same school.

The next year I made my home in Redfield with my brother-in-law and my sister, Dr. and Mrs. John Mahaffey. I earned my living by going from door to door selling cosmetics and shampooing and curling hair with an old fashioned iron curler. This curling took an hour, for in those days, many women had hair so long that when they were seated, their hair reached to the floor. Braids, wound around the head, was the popular hair style of that day. I usually styled hair for women who were about to have their pictures taken.

I married Albert Lueck, who operated a harness shop on North Main Street. Two children were born to us: a boy who died very suddenly at the age of fifteen from a brain tumor, and a girl, LaVonne, now Mrs. John Tinker, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the mother of seven children.

After my marriage, I continued to work in my beauty shop, which was in the Lindrooth Studio, at the location of the present Spink County Bank. After ten years I moved my shop to my present residence on North Main Street, and continued with my beauty work. I retired in 1950 and in 1951, Mr. Lueck died. I later married Mr. Earl Atha, of Linton, North Dakota, a man whom I had known since childhood. We continue to live in the same building which was once my beauty shop on North Main Street.

BACKER FAMILY

Charles F. Backer, his wife, Emily and five children, Emma, Ida, Charles, Henry and Helen, came to Dakota Territory in December, 1883 and located on a farm near Crandon.

The weather was so cold and the house so poorly built that a crate of chickens which they brought with them, froze to death in the cellar.

The trees on the northwest corner of Crandon were planted by the son, Henry Backer, on the original Backer homestead and tilled with oxen.

Charles Backer worked on the railroad at Northville and used a hand-car to return home.

Henry was born in LeSeuer, Minnesota, October 20, 1873 and his wife, Anna, was born May 19, 1883, at Hillside, Dakota Territory (near

Mitchell). Her mother had died when she was very young. Her four-year old sister, Gustie, said to her father; "You aren't going to give your little Gustie away, are you?" This remark kept the family together.

Henry and Anna were married in 1900. There were eleven children born to them. One died in infancy. Henry, after spending most of his life in Spink County, died April 14, 1961.

MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL BALL

Samuel Ball was born at Branford, Ontario, Canada, February 4, 1844, and his wife, Fanny Cook Ball, was born in Somersetshire, England, February 24, 1844. They were maried in Canada, and in 1870 moved to Roseburg, Michigan, and became United States citizens.

In the spring of 1882, Ball came to Dakota Territory and filed on land in Spink County; he then returned to Michigan and brought back Mrs. Ball and the five children, Charles, Anne, John, Fanny, and Rena. (Robert, Alice and George had died in Michigan.)

They settled on the Northwest Quarter of Section 20, four miles northwest of Tulare. The next spring, June 20, 1883, their daughter Edith was born. She was the first baby girl born in Tulare township.

Ball's house was made of wood brought from Michigan, and the frame barn was fastened together with wooden pegs. The older children walked four miles to school in Tulare. Later the younger children attended the first country school in the township located on Section 29.

Mrs. Ball was often called to help care for the sick. After the pioneer Dr. Hinkley left Tulare, she assumed the duties of mid-wife with courage and ability.

Her granddaughter, Ruby Pennington Schultze, remembers her telling of a baby born with an extra finger. With a butcher knife she cut off the finger and bandaged the hand, which healed perfectly.

She was also considered to be quite a fortune teller. Because she happened to be lucky in her first predictions, with tea leaves, some people thought she could foresee the future.

The Balls struggled along with the money received from butter, eggs, and the vegetables they raised. They kept a box beside the kitchen stove filled with buffalo chips and corn cobs which they used, together with the coal, for fuel.

They filled their bed ticks (mattresses) with good fresh straw every fall. In cold weather they took soapstones or hot flatirons to bed to keep themselves warm.

For their social life, they had quilting bees, neighborhood spell-downs, folk dancing, in the home or in the schoolhouse and community sings. In the summer there were picnics and church socials, and in the winter sleight-ride parties.

In 1895 the Ball home was destroyed by fire. A new home was built northwest of the former home.

The winter of 1896-7 was known as the "winter of the deep snow" and in the spring the dry runs were filled with water. On the morning of April 1st, John, the second son, who was twenty-four years old, and a student at Redfield college, was driving the cattle from the new location to the old. He was riding a horse which had recently been purchased from August Binger. The new horse threw him, he was drowned and his body was not recovered until nine days later.

He was buried in the Redfield Cemetery, the funeral cortege making the trip from Redfield in boats as the flooded roads were impassable.

In September, 1887, after John's death, the Balls left South Dakota in their old camp wagon, enroute to Mt. Grove, Missouri, where their other son, Charles lived. When they reached Woonsocket, they received word that their daughter, Fanny's husband of a few weeks, Howard Williams, Redfield, had been severely burned in a kerosene explosion.

Leaving their daughters, Rena and Edith, in Woonsocket, they returned to Redfield, by train, to attend the funeral of their son-in-law, before continuing on their way to Missouri, where Samuel Ball died July 12, 1923, followed by his wife, Fanny, November 11, 1924. Interment was made in Missouri.

MR. AND MRS. LEROY J. BANCROFT

Leroy J. Bancorft, one of the first settlers in Spink County, Dakota Territory, was a native of Worchester County, Massachusetts, and was born November 25, 1845 to Moses J. and Martha (Bryant) Bancroft, the oldest of six children.

He learned the rattan splitter trade from his father, and also followed the steps of his grandfather, learning the shoemaker's trade.

At the age of seventeen years, he enlisted in Company G, 34th Infantry from Massachusetts, and was sent at once to Harper's Ferry. Later he was captured and sent to Libby prison. On his return from the service, Mr. Bancroft married Rozelen J. Morse (sixteen years old). He operated a chain factory for four years in Phillipston, then worked in a factory in New York and in 1876 in a cabinet shop in Chicago.

In the spring of 1879, he arrived by ox team in Dakota Territory and squatted on land in Section 33, in Great Bend Township. In June of the same year his wife and two children joined him, making their home in a 9 x 11 dugout on the banks of the James River. Mrs. Bancroft was the second white woman to settle in the county.

The floods of 1881 destroyed the dugout and a sod shanty was built to replace it. Mr. Bancroft, with his ox team, hauled supplies and surveyors from Watertown to Pierre and Huron. In the winter of 1880-81 the family lived on wheat ground in a coffee mill and then boiled. Toward spring Mr. Bancroft made snowshoes and traveled fifteen miles to his nearest neighbor for a sack of flour, as his wife could not digest the ground wheat.

In October, 1888, their dugout barn was destroyed by fire and the January 12, 1888 blizzard killed some of their stock.

Five more sons were born to them. Three died in infancy, and

Myron L. in 1925.

Mr. Bancroft was the first Justice of the Peace in Spink County, and was closely associated with the growth of the county.

In the fall of 1916 Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft, unable to stand the strenuous farm work, moved to Redfield. He died December 1, 1920, and she died April 11, 1933.

LOU BARROWS

My father was station agent for the Illinois Central Railroad in Ludlow, Illinois. Mother was not well. The C & N W Railroad was building west, and in 1881 father moved to Dakota Territory. At that time another railroad, the Dakota Central, was being built north from Huron, and the end of that road was at Redfield. Father was employed there as their agent.

When our family, which consisted of my mother, my father, ten year old brother Elmer, and myself, aged eight years, arrived in Redfield, with our immigrant car, there was no place we could rent. We had supper at the Welker House, but there were no vacant rooms in that hotel. The rooms, though not available, were just building paper nailed on the 2 x 4 studding. Father took us to see Mr. Matt Jarvis, to see if he had room for us. The Jarvis House was located on the site of the present Packard Hotel. They were filled up, but Mrs. Jarvis said we could have her room.

To reach this room we had to climb stairs on the south side of the building. The building was a combination of sod and lumber; the outside steps reached a door, opening into the highest part of the room. There were cots on each side leaving a narrow aisle to Mrs. Jarvis' quarters. There was no room for Father, so he had a cot in the boxcar which was used as a depot until the real station was finished.

Our car of household goods arrived but there was no place to put them. A building was being erected west and across the street from the Jarvis House, so father rented a one-room space and by nailing up our carpets, we had a parlor, bedroom, kitchen, laundry, etc.

The Bagge family had also arrived in Redfield. Their family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Bagge, Winnie, Annie and Andrew, and later Redfield Bagge was born, and he was the first baby to have been born in Redfield.

Andrew made a stone boat, put a small barrel and a large barrel on a sled and hauled water from the creek. This was the only water available to the families living there; the price for the large barrel of water was 10c, and for the small barrel 5c. Later, Uncle Jimmie Huston had a surface well at his lumber yard, and all day long people came from town with pitchers, and buckets, to get this good drinking water.

Father filed on a pre-emption three miles north of Redfield. Mother, Elmer and I remained on the claim. Our fuel consisted of buffalo chips and a little coal brought from town. We bought a whiskey barrel, burned the inside and made a water barrel of it. Mother melted all the snow we could bring into the house. We gathered two drygoods boxes of buffalo horns, and when we were short of fuel, we burned them, but they were the poorest kind of fuel. Mother had a difficult time getting water to do the cooking as the water in the barrel would freeze solid. When spring and summer came, Father had a well dug for us.

No sod plowing had been done as yet. There were no roads. There was an abundance of dry prairie grass and blue stem grass. Our claim shanty was made of boards 12 x 16 with a small lean-to for the kitchen. One day the wind was blowing a perfect gale from the north, and a prairie fire started. There was not a furrow plowed within miles of us. Mother tried to back fire, but it was impossible to burn an inch against the wind. Our chicken house was a frame skeleton of two by fours, covered with prairie hay. As Mother was a very religious person and there was no way to fight the fire, she put a chair outside the cabin and prayed to God to help us. We were all kneeling when the fire roared over the shanty. Not one shingle of our shanty, or bit of hay on the chicken house burned. After passing us, the fire reached a flock of antelope who could not outrun it. When their fur caught fire, they would jump into the air, making circles of fire. Father and some men came from town in a wagon, and we all rejoiced that God had saved us from the prairie fire.

We moved back into Redfield in 1882. On our arrival in 1881, the nearest church was forty miles. Father had permission to hold Church and Sunday School in a passenger coach staying Sunday in Redfield. He rang the engine bell to call people to worship. A familiar figure in Aberdeen and Redfield was a missionary priest, Father Robert Haire. He wore a long beard and was granted a special dispensation by the Catholic Church because of a throat ailment.

There was much excitement in those early days of interest to a boy. One day, while we were living on the claim, an Indian on horseback stopped a short distance from our cabin and remained there for perhaps a half hour watching, no doubt, to see if there were any men around. Later we learned that the Indians were camping in Hall's Pond, an old lake bed a short distance west of us. We were nervous for a day or so after that, when Pard Bolander, son of the blacksmith, who was married to a full-blooded Sioux Indian woman, came on a black horse, on a full run, and without stopping hollered "Run for your lives, the Indians are coming." We expected the Indians but they did not appear.

A friend of Father's, an old gentleman from Illinois, had taken a claim next to ours, and, while we had no transportation, he had a team of mules and a long stone boat. He hooked his mules to the boat, loaded us on and started to town. We expected Indians to jump from every patch of blue stem grass that we passed, but they didn't. When we arrived in town, there was a lot of excitement. We found that a special train had come from Huron to help defend the town against the Indians. Old Indian fighters, like Uncle Jimmie Huston, John Hough, Louis Kneisel, and others came in a wagon and stopped between the Foster House and Main Street. Louis Kneisel stood up in the wagon and explained that the "Indian Scare" was merely a joke.

Historical records show that after the Custer Massacre, Sitting Bull and five thousand warriors fled to Canada. Cold and privation caused them to return to Dakota Territory. Forts and Reservations were then established along the Missouri River and elsewhere, to take care of them. The President wanted to see Sitting Bull, so he sent Buffalo Bill (William Cody) to Dakota Territory to get him. Buffalo Bill brought him to Redfield to catch the train to make the trip to Washington. They stayed over night at the Foster House. Father told Elmer and me about this, and we went right over there to see them. I also saw them on their return trip from Washington, when they again stayed at the Foster House.

Another exciting event was the county seat war, which I recall very well. Also, the last Indian War, when the superstitious Indians held the Ghost Dance and expected the hunting grounds to be given back to them. General Miles had sent Buffalo Bill and one of his showmen, Pony Bob, to Dakota Territory to get Sitting Bull. They got as far as Redfield and spent the night of December 15, 1890 at the Foster House. Father then received a wire for Mr. Cody, informing him to turn back as Sitting Bull had been killed by Indian Police.

During times such as this, people from sparsely settled areas would move into Redfield until it was considered safe for them to move back to their homes.

Another exciting time was in 1882 when hundreds of easterners came by train, covered wagons, etc., to take up Government land. Very few brought much money. Hail, dry years, etc., discouraged many. In 1882, there were about as many wagons returning east as there were coming west. Many of the wagons had catchy signs painted on their sides, showing their disappointment. One read, "Goodbye, Old Dakota, Farewell, Adieu, We may immigrate to Hell some day, but we'll never come back to you."

I attended the first school ever held in Redfield. It was a small schoolhouse, perhaps 8 x 10, and had two wooden desks, and two benches of rough lumber. Miss Allice Thomas was the teacher, and she later married Gene Chandler, the cigar maker. He eventually sold his property and moved to Sycamore, Illinois, where Mrs. Chandler died. Gene then moved to California.

The first butcher shop in Redfield was a piano box, set on end, with a burlap door for easy access by the butcher and the flies. The first meat hung in this shop was that of an old milk cow which was butchered on the spot where the railroad bridge was later built. Two Indians were the first customers. We boys were amazed when one Indian said to the other, "Depot butcher cow meat." That was the first English we had ever heard an Indian use.

There were nineteen of us then; now I am the only one of us living. On my next birthday, August 31st, I will be 89 years of age.

Lou Barrows

MR. AND MRS. AUGUST BASTIAN

The August Bastian home, seven miles north of Frankfort, in the pioneer days, was a haven of hospitality and friendliness. Many itinerant ministers, eager landseekers and school teachers found rest and welcome there.

The owner of this homestead was born in Mecklenburg, Schwerin, Germany, October 9, 1844. When he was a year and a half old his mother died and he then made his home with an uncle. At the age of seventeen, he and one of his brothers left Germany and sailed for America. They located at Farmridge, Illinois. On September 27, 1866, Mr. Bastian became a naturalized American citizen.

Miss Charlotte Grube, who later became August Bastian's wife, was born December 29, 1850 in Neuenkirchen Mecklenburg, Strelitz, Germany. At the age of six years, she came with her parents to America and they also settled in Illinois.

In 1870, August Bastian and Charlotte Grube were married. Shortly after their marriage, driving over the prairies in a covered wagon drawn by an ox team, the two finally arrived at Leavenworth, Kansas where they made their home for a couple of years. They then returned to Illinois and located near the town of Roberts, in Ford County.

On May 10, 1881, the Bastians moved to Dakota Territory and Mr. Bastian filed on a homestead 7 miles north of the present town of Frankfort. For three months they lived in a tent, and then in a sod house for a short time, before enough lumber could be hauled by oxen from Huron to build their frame house.

Mrs. Bastian's father, Mr. John Grube, after the death of his wife, left Illinois and homesteaded in Dakota Territory in the spring of 1882. He returned to Illinois, and then came back to Dakota Territory and made his home with the Bastians. He died January 13, 1888, the day after the Great Blizzard. His funeral was held on January 16, in the Bastian School House a few miles from the Bastian home. As a result of the storm, the roads were impassable, and they were forced to keep Mr. Grube's body in the Bastian granary for several weeks until the roads were opened and they were able to ship the body to Roberts, Illinois to be buried beside his wife.

The August Bastians lived on their farm for twenty years, enduring the hardships common to the pioneers. Eight children were born to this couple, four of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Bastian was always called upon by the pioneer doctor of Doland to assist in the birth of most of the children of the neighborhood. Both she and her husband were hard workers and a molding force and influence for good in civic and religious activities of the community. Both were active in the church meetings which were held on Sundays in the Bastian School House two miles from their home.

The Bastians retired in 1901 and moved to Redfield where they lived the remainder of their lives. Mr. Bastian helped in the improvement of the city by erecting several beautiful residences. Mrs. Bastian died June 2, 1915 at the age of 65 years, and Mr. Bastian on August 6, 1928 at the age of 83 years.

Their sons, Franklin E. Bastian died March 11, 1929; Ferdinand W. Bastian on October 28, 1935, and their daughter, Mrs. Laura D. Nicholson on January 19, 1959. The only member remaining in the August Bastian family is Miss Edith Bastian who lives at Seventh Avenue East, in Redfield, South Dakota.

MR. JAMES BEECHEY

James Beechey was born about 1860 in the slums of Bristol, England. When a child his father deserted his family leaving a wife dying of cancer and four small children under twelve years of age.

The three younger children were placed in an orphanage but the older girl disappeared and was never found. Later James was one of a shipload of boys sent to Canada. Here he supported himself by working on farms. He went to school whenever he had the opportunity.

When he reached manhood he went to St. Paul, Minnesota, and then by stage to Dakota Territory. In 1883, having become a United States citizen, he filed on a claim north of Conde. Here he built a sod house and lived that winter; he would have starved without the help of his neighbors, the MacPartlands. In the spring he left his claim and worked on a farm near Ashton. On February 27, 1888, he married Mary Ann Weeks, also from England, and they farmed near Mellette. In 1898 they bought a farm near Aberdeen.

Three daughters were born to them, one dying in infancy, and Daisy Beechey Stepanek, of Aberdeen, and Violet Beechey Noren of Ashton.

He died in November, 1924, and his wife in April, 1938.

GEORGE M. BEETEM

Gorge M. Beetem was born at Dubuque, Iowa on November 27, 1847. Mary Helen Simmons was born at Trivola, Illinois on April 8, 1855, later moving to Iowa. She met George M. Beetem at a Methodist Camp Meeting at Nora Springs, Iowa on July 4, 1873. They were married September 14, 1873 at Forrest City, Iowa. Following their marriage, they moved to Mason City where Mr. Beetem worked in a store. Georgiana and Charles were born in Mason City.

The family moved to Freeborn, Minnesota where they engaged in farming. However, after a year, Mr. Beetem became restless and in the spring of 1879 made a trip into Dakota Territory and filed on a claim one and one-half miles south and two miles east of where the town of Ashton now stands. The following November, he moved his family there. They lived in a one-room sod shanty. The nearest neighbor was five miles away.

Frances Ada was born on January 23, 1880. She was the first white child to be born in Spink County. Others have claimed they were first, but it is true their fathers filed on claims, in 1879, but they lived in Watertown or some other place and did not move to their claims until in the spring of 1880.

In 1883 Mr. Beetem sold his claim and, with his family and all his worldly goods, loaded in an old lumber wagon, he moved to a farm three miles south and five miles west of Conde. There Maude and Gladys were born. They lived on this farm for eleven years, then again moved seven miles east and three miles north of Conde where the family spent the next three years, again moving into the Kota Hills east of them.

Eleven years were spent in tilling the soil and raising and educating the children. In 1908, after thirty-five years of homesteading and farming, they moved to the new town of Crandall, which is seven and one-half miles east of Conde. There they expected to rest and enjoy the fruits of their years of labor but, with the over-abundance of zeal and enthusiasm of a much younger man, Mr. Beetem couldn't remain inactive. He became mail carrier, carrying mail between the postoffice and train, until he was more than eighty-nine years old.

In 1936, September 14th, Mr. and Mrs. Beetem had celebrated their sixty-third wedding anniversary.

Mrs. Beetem died in 1936, and later that year Mr. Beetem went to California to visit their daughter. There he became ill, and, being lonesome for South Dakota, he returned to the country he loved the best, and died on October 11, 1939, one month and fourteen days before his 92nd birthday.

REMINISCENCES

When Mr. Beetem moved to the claim in 1879, the buffalo were numerous. Even the wild geese would light in the yard and the two oldest children would chase them. The Indians were all about and Mrs. Beetem was afraid of them. She would be doing the work and suddenly the room would be full of Indians.

One summer a horse was loose on a picket rope and strangled itself. Mr. Beetem then traded the other horse for a team of oxen.

There was no doctor, so Mrs. Beetem read doctor books and doctored the family, friends and neighbors. In later years, she doctored some Indian children who had measles.

At first all of the fuel they had was hay twisted so tight that Mrs. Beetem's arms were cut and bleeding from twisting it.

Mush and milk on a Sunday night was a treat. A little brown sugar on bread was a luxury. Eggs cost five cents a dozen and butter seven and eight cents a pound. Mrs. Beetem drove a team twelve miles with this produce and sold it to buy groceries.

Mrs. Beetem's half-sister was drowned while being ferried across the James River.

WILLIAM E. BERKEY, SR.

On Friday, April 27, 1883, William E. Berkey, Sr., together with his grandfather, Christian Gish, and a friend David A. Brunton, arrived by immigrant car at Ashton, Dakota Territory, from LaFayette, Indiana.

After inspecting a number of available quarters of land, William E. Berkey bought a relinquishment of land in Jefferson Township, and Mr. Gish secured a tree claim on Northwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 118, Range 63, in Clifton Township. The corners of these quarters joined. Both built houses as required by law and proved up on this land.

On February 4, 1890, William E. Berkey and Annette McCart were married by Rev. George Boyer in Clifton Township. Gish and Berkey then traded land as the best house was located on the Northwest Quarter or Section 11, and this was the Berkey home from 1883 to 1925 when Mr. Berkey died.

The lumber and square nails for their first buildings were hauled from Watertown by ox-team. This house still stands on the same land which is owned by one of the Berkey family. Six generations have made their homes there at various times, on several occasions three generations living there at once.

In the early days, they broke sod for neighbors, and the old left-handed walking plow used for the purpose is still owned by the family. They shared the worries and cares of these early settlers, the nearly treeless prariries, hail and drought, but they had the determination to make real homes for their families.

The first building consisted of a car-roofed house of three rooms and a low car-roofed barn. In later years, this barn was picked up by a cyclone and scattered far and wide.

They found excellent water at fifty feet after having dug several dry wells. ("Witching for water" was a technique often used, and it seemed to work.) This well furnished drinking water for a number of neighbors for years, and also provided a sufficient amount of water for stock until the dry years of 1936. By that time, artesian wells were very satisfactory.

In the early days there were two windmills on this farm. One pumped the water, but the other ran a grinding mill. Most of the grinding was for stock feed, but grinding was done for anyone, whenever the wind cooperated.

The blizzard of 1897 was long-remembered as a trying time. Sixteen steps were dug in the snowbank to be used in climbing out after the storm. The cattle had to be fed, and watered, through the roof of the barn, and everyone was short of available feed.

The schools were community centers in those days. Family gatherings and house parties and dances, where there was scarcely standing room, but plenty of good neighbors, were enjoyed, especially in the winter time, preceded by the old bobsled rides, where those living farthest from the party picked up the neighbors along the way, whole families attending, and upon arrival there were always a number of children to tuck into bed among the coats. Then followed the party, with plenty of good food and frendliness.

Farms were smaller then and each family planned to do most of its work alone, but when harvest time came, neighbor helped neighbor, and at threshing time, it was almost like a celebration; everyone came to help.

The old steam engines and threshing machines putting up those picturesque stacks of bright yellow straw, the excitement of working every day, when the weather permitted, to take care of the grain, climaxed by those big meals usually cooked by the farmer's wife, and the neighbor ladies, where everything was cooked to perfection and thoroughly enjoyed by from twelve to twenty hungry men, were memorable experiences.

Later, the threshing crews slept in large tents and had their own cook cars where the men were fed.

Threshing usually lasted from the middle of August until nearly Thanksgiving time. What a thrill it was to have to break the ice on the water barrels to take "a quick wash" before breakfast on those late fall mornings.

Following are items from the diaries and letters of D. A. Brunton and W. E. Berkey, Sr.:

April 30, 1883. Fixed up and unpacked our goods. Bright, warm, and pleasant day. Went to Ashton with team, got soft coal at $8.00 per ton, coal oil and stove pipe. Came back and brought a barrel of water from the river. Put up our stove and cooked our first meal. Had fish.

May 1. Strong cold wind from the northeast with damp atmosphere. All up bright and early. Mr. Gish and I went fishing. Had splendid success. We went six miles north of Ashton to the mill dam and caught 34 large pike, from 1 to 3 lbs. in about three hours. Fine fun, yet too cold for pleasure. From about sixty pounds of fish we had four gallons of cleaned fish. Billie hauled a barrel of water from the river. Mr. Peck came over in the evening intending to go to north Faulk County on Sunday, but it was too cold, so gave up the idea.

May 2. Cold as Blitzen this morning. Regular Dakota blizzard, snowing and blowing a regular gale. We all slept warm last night, but the wind goes through us as soon as we go out of doors. Mr. Gish made some fish hooks out of an old umbrella stay and made a success of them. Farmers sowing wheat with overcoats and mittens on. Some wheat coming up while others are sowing oats. Billie and I went to Ashton this afternoon. Cold as blazes. Bought coffee, salt and bread. Had our first corn cakes baked on griddle and we pronounced them good.

Grandpa bought eggs of a Dakota lady for our corn cakes. Jule ate a hole in the roof of the stable and Mose tore another cover in strings.

Thursday, May 3. Still snowing and wind from the northeast. Snow about three inches deep. Stopped by noon and most snow gone by night. The mud is sticky as tar where the top soil is off. We intend to go to Faulk County to look for land if it clears by Sunday.

Very snowy weather. As bad as we ever have in Indiana. Will Peck and I went to Ashton, drove Nellie to road cart. Mud does not get deep but roads are very slippery. I have made up my mind to give Dakota a fair chance before I go back to Indiana.

May 4. Got up late, and it rained, almost snowing about every hour during the day. Still Peck began plowing sod. Mr. Brunton and I went to see the plow work. He liked the work but I did not. It did not run easy or turn an even furrow and had a great side draft.

Grandpa bought hay and Mr. Brunton and I hauled a small load. Then we went to the river for a barrel of water. There is something about the water that smells like a mad hog, when it is heated. Grandpa and Mr. Peck went to Ashton to see about the tree claim relinquishment, but did not close the deal. We thought the sun was going to set clear, but it did not. We find that an Indiana weather prophet can not tell anything about the weather here.

Summary of weather, June 24, to May 8th.

Had splendid weather to plow until about May 18, when it began getting too dry. We plowed for Frank Peck for two weeks and finished plowing fifty acres at $3.00 per acre, by June 25th. Near Grandpa's tree claim and began breaking the same day. The land plows altogether different than it did on Frank's. I think this land is worth twice as much as down near Peck's.

In 1897, Mr. Gish returned to Indiana where he died that same year, and was buried in that state.

BINDENAGEL FAMILY HISTORY.

Malta Bindenagel and his wife, Caroline (nee Siebrecht) came to Ashton, Dakota Territory in March, 1882, from Roberts, Ford County, Illinois, and homesteaded in Harmony Township seven miles northeast of Frankfort.

Their family consisted of Clara, Frank, Mary (Mrs. George Luxton), Freida, (Mrs. Ernest Overmeyer). Fred, and Herman, who died at the age of six months. Children born in Dakota were Emma (Mrs. Cone Meyer), Ella (Mrs. Homer Stambaugh), Bertha (Mrs. Albert Refvem), and Arthur.

They lived on this farm for twenty years sharing the many hardships of pioneer life.

In 1902 they retired and moved to Frankfort where they lived a quiet life until the death of Mr. Bindenagel on October 20, 1916. Mrs. Bindenagel made her home with her son, Fred, until her death on November 8, 1932.

REVEREND JOHN BLOOMHALL.

The Reverend John Bloomhall was one of the early pioneers of Spink County, South Dakota.

He was born at Staffordshire, England, on September 25, 1840. When twelve years of age, he came to the United States with his widowed mother, and they made their home in Albany, New York.

Several years later he came west with friends and settled in Dane County, Wisconsin. He was converted at the age of twenty, and later became a minister.

On September 25, 1862, he was married to Ellen M. Bleckly, who was born at Wokingham, England, on February 6, 1841. When she was six years old she came to the United States with her parents. After sailing for seven weeks they landed at New Orleans and came up the Mississippi River by boat to Madison, Wisconsin, where she grew to womanhood.

Three years after their marriage, they moved to Floyd County, Iowa, and lived there until 1882, when they came to what was then Dakota Territory. In 1881 he and the Boyer Brothers, George, John, and William, came to Spink County, and filed on land in Clifton Township, and together built their houses in preparation for their families' arrival, in the spring of 1882.

In those early days he traveled many miles to hold services in Conde, Beotia and Tetonka schoolhouses and sometimes in private homes. He was very fond of music and greatly enjoyed a good song fest. We had a melodeon, similar to an organ, only smaller, which he enjoyed playing, and which he taught my sisters to play. In the fall of 1887 we moved to a farm on the river near Ashton.

After the big blizzard of 1888, he decided to go south to a warmer climate. While in Tennessee we all contracted the ague so thought it best to return to Dakota in the spring of 1893. In 1894 he moved to the tree-claim in Tetonka Township, 119, Range 62, Section 35. The first summer lived in a cook-car pulled up beside the granary, on the Wells land that he farmed and later purchased.

In the fall he bought a house and moved it onto his own land. After a few years he built a large addition to it. He left the farm and moved to Mellette, and later moved to Aberdeen.

Wallace Hamilton and family were living on the farm when their gasoline stove caught fire and the house burned down. Mr. Bloomhall then bought the George Hamilton house and moved it to the farm and built an addition to it. They had come back to the farm, then on Sunday while they were at Sunday School, at the Meilke School, the house was struck by lightning and burned. All that was saved was a black walnut table and chair. The three youngest boys, Shirley, Erwin and Clair were at home at the time. Another house was then moved to the location, and that house stood for a number of years, but finally burned in 1926 when Cecil Lewis and wife Ethel were living there.

A schoolhouse was then purchased for a residence and was remodeled and that still stands.

Mr. Bloomhall became ill and was cared for at the home of Mrs. Vielet in Mellette, where he died. His wife had died on January 10, 1927. There were ten children in thir family. The three youngest are still living, Grace Lewis Vanderbelt, Erwin C. Bloomhall of Ashton, and Clair W. Bloomhall of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

MRS. CARL BOARD AND OTHERS AROUND DOLAND

Mrs. Carl Board of Doland was born in Spring Township October 8, 1889. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norton Hurlbert, had come from Sterling, Illinois.

Andrew Bollerslev of Doland was born November 27, 1883 on a homestead in Belle Plaine Township, which had been taken by his parents in 1882. He now lives in Harrison Township near the old homestead. Martin Bollerslev was born February 25, 1877 in Denmark, and came with his parents to Belle Plaine Township in 1882. He still lives on the homestead.

Mrs. A. A. Fryer (Nee Louisa Heintz) of Doland was born October 21, 1871, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Heintz of Illinois, who homesteaded in Harrison Township in April, 1886.

J. Bernard Hansen of Doland was born in Denmark, and came to America with his family in 1881, at the age of four years, and they settled on a homestead in Clifton Township.

Mrs. Carrie Herker of Doland was born September 25, 1879 at Fremont, Minnesota and came to Dakota Territory with her father, Lee Butler, in December, 1879, and homesteaded in Prairie Center Township.

James Holmes of Doland was born February 13, 1881, in Lodi, Wisconsin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Holmes, who had settled on a homestead in Richfield Township, three miles southeast of Doland, in 1882.

Mrs. Seetsa (Sophia) Hofman, of Doland was born in Chicago October 9, 1884, and her brother Gus E. Hansen was born in 1886 in the homestead of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hansen who homesteaded in Spring Township in 1882.

Chris Lindskov of Doland was born near Madison, Wisconsin December 20, 1876. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Lindskov, came to Dakota Territory in June, 1882 and settled on a homestead eight and one-half miles southwest of Doland in Belle Plaine Township.

Mrs. Leta Labrie was born September 3, 1877 at Janesville, Wisconsin, and her brother Clark Lawrence was born there on August 24, 1881. Both were children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lawrence who came to Dakota Territory in 1883 and homesteaded on a farm southwest of Doland in Belle Plaine Township.

Fred J. Kitzman was born May 31, 1886 at the homestead in Harrison Township southwest of Doland, His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Kitzman and came from Chicago in 1883.

M. J. Twiss was born May 8, 1887 at Athol, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Twiss, who came in 1881 from Boston, Massachusetts, to Dakota Territory. Mr. Frank Twiss helped build the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad between Watertown and Redfield.

Ben L. Wells was born July 18, 1879 at Manteno, Illinois. His brother Arthur Wells was born February 8, 1881 at Manteno, Illinois. Both came to Dakota Territory with their parents Mr. and Mrs. William Wells in the spring of 1883 from Manteno, Illinois, who took land in Turton Township.

Arthur Wolverton of Doland was born April 4, 1880 in Canasarago, New York, his brother Byron on October 12, 1882, and their sister Mrs. Minnie Cooper, on September 14, 1887. They came with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Wolverton to Dakota Territory in 1883 from Canasarago, New York and settled in Richfield Township southeast of Doland.

Roy Woodring was born July 27, 1878 near Osago, Iowa, and came to Dakota Territory with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Woodring when he was five years old. They filed on a homestead in Prairie Center Township in 1882, and settled there permanently in 1883. Mrs. Blanche Woodring Kraus was born on the Woodring homestead in Prairie Center Township on July 14, 1884, and at the present time is living in Doland.

EDWARD BORWELL.

Edward Borwell was born in Manchester, England in 1842, and came with his parents to America in 1845. They lived in Canada for a time, but later moved to Wisconsin. He enlisted in Company G of the 11th Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to Missouri to guard the Iron Mountain Railway until the spring of 1862, when he was with General Curtis in Missouri and Arkansas. The 11th Infantry joined General Grant in Louisiana in 1863, and were in the Vicksburg campaign. Mr. Borwell was wounded and sent to a hospital. He was discharged in July, and returned home for a short time. In 1864 he served with the Cavalry Bureau, being connected with that organization until the close of the war.

In the spring of 1882, he came to Dakota, and took a pre-emption, and a homestead and built a shanty on the line between the two quarters of land. With him came his wife, whom he had married in 1868, and two daughters, Annie and Mary, and a son, Joseph. Mr. James Bowers rode in his emigrant car to look after the animals. Mr. Bowers stayed and made his home here also.

The railroad was built through Conde and trains began to run in the fall of 1886. Mr. Borwell moved to Conde the following January. His residence was the second one built there. In 1893, he was elected County Auditor and served two terms, after which he returned to Conde.

SAMUEL W. BOWMAN

Samuel W. Bowman was born in West Virginia, September 20, 1830, the oldest son of six children of David and Delila McHenry Bowman. Later, the family moved to Fairfield, Iowa where Samuel was reared in the usual manner of farm lads of that period, receiving his education in a log schoolhouse.

At the age of eighteen years, both of his parents had died and he went to Wisconsin where he was employed in a saw mill from 1852-1854. He then engaged in farming and lumbering until 1878 when he came to Dakota Territory. In the fall of 1878 Watertown was founded and Bowman purchased lots in that town. Having learned of the rich land in the James River Valley, in November, 1877, he accompanied John Carr and H. P. Packard, and selected as a claim a portion of Section 30, Great Bend Township.

Mr. Bowman returned to Wisconsin and in February, 1879 again came to Watertown, where he erected some buildings on his land. He then went to Springfield and filed his claim to the James River property. In May, 1880, he brought his family to the valley home and was then a resident of Spink County until his death.

In 1881, he established a hotel at Redfield, but in May, 1882, he moved to Ashton, and opened the Bowman House which he managed until 1889.

In 1890, he was elected to the Legislature and served as chairman of the Ways & Means Committee.

From 1891 until 1893 he was Deputy Commissioner of School & Public Lands.

In 1854 he married Sarah E. Hamilton, a native of Delaware. Five children were born to them: Ella, wife of F. W. Cole of Black River Falls, Wisconsin; Louis H., an attorney; May, wife of C. B. Billinghurst of Ashton; Lida, deceased; and Ruth, wife of J. E. Hipple, of the Hipple Publishing House of Pierre.

MR. AND MRS. AUGUST BROCKMAN.

Mr. and Mrs. August Brockman and family arrived in Redfield, Dakota Territory, from Earlville, Illinois, on a chilly, gloomy 10th of May, 1883.

They arrived about midnight after a long and tiresome trip on the train. Travel in those days was heavy due to the fact that so many people were coming West. The Foster Hotel was so over-crowded that the only available place for them to sleep was in the sample room. This was a room used by traveling salesmen to display their merchandise. However, the beds were clean and comfortable, and they enjoyed the first good night's sleep since leaving home.

Grandfather, Gottlieb Klebsch, came for us in the morning and took us to his farm four and one-half miles northeast of Redfield, where we lived while our house was being built. Father had purchased two lots in town in 1882, and there he unloaded the carload of household goods brought with us from Earlville. He built a shanty over them, and we lived in it until our house was built later that year.

Father had a well dug on the outlot in the flat below the house. There was only one other well in town. It was owned by the Welker House Hotel, which was located where the A & B Chevrolet Garage now stands. Our well was pumped dry every night by the citizens who came with pitchers, kettles, and pails to get their drinking water. Water for bathing and laundry had to be taken from Turtle Creek. Later there were wagons that made the rounds to supply water. Mother brought shrubbery and some perennial plants and in order to keep them alive during the dry summers, she bought water at 10c a barrel.

The Indians were very fascinating to us children, who had not ever seen them before. They came in caravans from the Pine Ridge Agency on their way to the Sisseton Reservation, and some times Redfield citizens could persuade them to put on a war dance. They put on these dances on the present site of the Community Memorial Hospital. On their cross-country trek, some of them would stop at my grandfather's farm, which was an old Indian stamping ground. There was an Indian graveyard on a knoll east of the house. The graves had been opened by souvenir hunters, and the ground was covered with colored beads and arrow heads. Southwest of the house was a ring of stones encircling five buffalo skulls centered by a conical-shaped stone. This was known as the Council Stone. Every visiting group stopped at this circle, smoked peace pipes and visited, to which sessions Grandfather was invited.

A short distance down the river, an Indian was buried on a platform in an elm tree, and it frightened us the first time we saw it. The blanket was tattered and waved in the breeze. The skull fell down one day when some of my relatives were playing there, causing excitement and fright.

Father was a contractor and builder, and helped build the First Methodist Church which was built in 1882 before he brought his family to Dakota. He walked into town from the Bruell farm every day. He helped build many of the early business places in town.

The first schoolhouse was a small frame building of two rooms. As the town enlarged, rooms were added. We children attended school there, and were in school on that historic January 12, 1888, the day of the Big Blizzard. Sixteen people perished in the storm, including teachers and pupils. We were fortunate in that we lived only two blocks from the school and that Father and a neighbor called for us. In spite of help, we were nearly separated. No one can imagine the intensity of a storm so fierce. The air was so dense with snow that one could not see one's hand twelve inches from his face.

Our County Seat war was an interesting event. The county records were kept at Old Ashton which was located four miles northeast of Redfield. One afternoon coming home from school, I saw a long string of wagons and horseback riders coming to reclaim the records which some Redfield citizens had stolen the night before. There was much arguing and many wordy battles, but only one shot was fired. It was accidentally fired by an earnest citizen who wanted to emphasize a point.

When the first artesian well was dug and water was struck, Redfield went wild. A special edition of the paper came out with a three-inch headline: "The Ural River Tapped and Redfield Soaked with Water!" The town really celebrated that day and the condition of some of the citizens was not caused by drinking artesian water. The editor of our newspaper was H. C. Rising. He called his publication "The Rising Sun". His printing office was at the present Library site.

There were many hardships in the early days, but there were many compensations. Living costs were low. Milk was five cents a quart, butter ten cents a pound, a ring of bologna was ten cents, and coffee about twenty cents a pound. Calico was eight to ten cents a yard, and lawn dress goods, five cents.

I have spent my entire lifetime in Redfield, with the exception of my first eight years spent in Illinois. I have seen terrific growth and many changes in my seventy-eight years in this community.

Anna B. Shade, Redfield, South Dakota.

ROY BROWN

Roy Brown was born west of Athol in a dugout. Most of the food they had to eat was corn they had raised on a field plowed with a team of oxen.

In May, 1891, six boys, with three saddle horses and dogs, herded three thousand head of cattle on a herd ranch eighteen miles long and twelve miles wide. It had no fences.

Athol, in the Eighties, among other establishments, had a livery stable, a saloon and a horse-drawn street-car. The route of this car was a mile in length. George Wilhelm was the driver.

GUSTAVE BRUELL.

Gustave Bruell, a native of Germany, came to Spink County as a young man, enlisting in the Union Army and reserves, and served for a time on the Mississippi gun boats. He fought in the Battle of Vicksburg.

Mrs. Martha Bruell, his wife, a native of Earlville, Illinois, and a sister of the five Myers brothers (Fred, Charles, John, Frank and Will), came to Spink County in 1880. At that time everything had to be hauled from Huron or Watertown by team.

The Bruell family settled on a homestead one and one-half miles northeast of Redfield, where the father and mother lived the rest of their lives. They were one of the eight families who spent the winter of 1880-81 in Redfield and vicinity.

Only one of their five children is living at the present time (April, 1961.)

The Bruell family endured all of the hardships common to the pioneers, but those who endured and stayed in Dakota Territory through the eighties and the nineties finally came into possession of fine homes and farms which they had carved from the prairies. The children and grandchildren have reaped the benefits of what their ancestors have sown.

Mr. Bruell was gifted with the power to find underground water, and located many of the first wells dug in the Redfield area.

In 1898 he was elected County Commissioner. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bruell were charter members of the German Methodist Church in Redfield, and active members throughout their lives.

WILLIAM F. BRUELL.

Prominent attorney, legislator, and enthusiastic booster of Redfield, William F. Bruell was born in Earlville, Illinois, January 1, 1872. In 1880 at the age of eight years, he came to Dakota Territory with his parents who had filed on a homestead one and a half miles northeast of Redfield.

It was on this homestead that Will Bruell spent his boyhood, experiencing the hardships common to the pioneer farm boy of those times. He often said that it took both his brother and himself to service their old straw-burning stove, for one boy was always coming with the straw while the other was going for it.

The Indian scare of 1882 remained vivid in his memory. He recalled a messenger coming early one morning to their farm home with the news that Indians had attacked the LaFoon settlement in Faulk County. Farmers flocked into Redfield and scouting parties were organized. That night the Bruell children were made to sleep on the floor while the older members kept constant guard. The horses remained harnessed, ready for the family to flee at a moment's notice. However, the next morning the family learned it was a false report and there had been no gathering of hostile Indians.

Mr. Bruell spoke, too, of "The Coffee Mill Winter" or the winter of 1880 and 1881, when pioneers found their flour supply depleted and were forced to grind wheat in their coffee mills. This wheat flour, with the meat of antelope, jack rabbits, and prairie chickens comprised their food for the winter.

In the fall of 1882, Mr. Bruell, with sixteen other children, attended the first day of school ever held in Redfield. The teacher was Miss Allie Chandler. He continued his education into high school. "We didn't graduate in those days," Will said. "Boys went to school until they grew beards and girls until they were married." After this, he walked two miles each day to attend Redfield College. After graduating, he studied law in the Redfield office of Howard & Walsh, and in 1897 was admitted to the bar.

On September 20, 1900, he married Miss Carol Riggs, whose parents were also Dakota pioneers. They maintained their home in Redfield.

Mr. Bruell served in the State House of Representatives in 1923 and in the Senate in 1925. In the latter, he was a member of the committee in charge of the reorganization of the state Administrative Code. He was also Chairman of the Committee to investigate the State Banking Department. His success as an attorney brought him such honors as presidency of the State Bar Association and a ten-year membership in the National Conference for Drafting State Uniform Laws. In 1930 he received a personal invitation from President Hoover to attend the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection in Washington, D. C. Later he received a personal note of thanks from the President for his attendance.

In 1927, when the present Court House was dedicated, Mr. Bruell wrote a Historical Review of the County and took part in the dedication ceremonies. He also acted as Chairman for the Redfield Golden Jubilee of 1930 and the South Dakota Jubilee of 1939.

Besides his legal work, Mr. Bruell was an active worker in the Methodist Church, the Kiwanis Club, and the Masonic Order.

Throughout his life he made a keen study of Redfield and its needs. In his unassuming, yet forceful, way, he always worked for the town's betterment. "The future of Redfield," he said, "rests entirely upon the people who live here. They can make it what they wish, if they are willing to work hard enough for it."

When asked about a remedy for the lawlessness of the present day, Mr. Bruell remarked: "A love of country and a respect for law must be taught in the home and in the school. Education is the only means of overcoming this evil."

MR. AND MRS. ROY T. BULL

Roy T. Bull was born July 2, 1878, at Mentor, Ohio, and came to Dakota Territory in 1881 with his parents. Here they lived on a farm near Frankfort.

In 1900 he was admitted to the Bar and started to practice law in Redfield, as a member of the firm of Howard and Walsh. Later he practiced by himself, and then for a short time with Mr. N. P. Bromley, and later continued practicing law alone.

His character and conduct, both as a private citizen and a lawyer, were an inspiration to those who knew him.

He married Ida Perry (daughter of Mrs. Mason), a rural school teacher from Michigan. Two children were born to them, a son Mason Bull, living at Morrison, Illinois, and a daughter, Augusta Jane Bull, living in Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Bull was an able lawyer, a charter member of the Redfield Kiwanis Club, a member of the Masonic Order, Spink County State's Attorney, and Redfield City attorney for many years.

Mrs. Bull preceded Mr. Bull in death. He died while visiting his daughter in Illinois, on the 6th day of September, 1960, and was buried in the Redfield cemetery.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK BURGESS

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burgess came to Dakota Territory in 1881 when the ghost post office of Hastings, 5½ miles west of the present Doland, was the main stopping place between Watertown and Belcher's Ford at Fisher's Grove.

Frank Burgess left his home in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin in the spring of 1881 and came to Dakota Territory where he filed on the Southeast Quarter of Section 20, Township 117, Range 61.

After building his claim shanty, a barn, and digging a well that summer, he spent his extra time hauling lumber from Watertown for other early settlers. At least two of these people ordered pre-made frame houses from Illinois. Mr. Burgess used his wagon and team of horses to bring these from Watertown to their owners. One such building was delivered to the James Brothers (Joe and George) who lived two miles west and one mile north of Doland, and the other to Joe Brosseau, four miles west and two and one-half miles north of Doland.

Jennie Aldrich, who later became Mrs. Burgess, arrived in Dakota Territory in the fall of 1881, and filed on the Northwest Quarter of Section 28, Township 117, Range 61. She made her home with Mr. and Mrs. John Lang at Hastings. Mrs. Lang was her sister.

On March 18, 1882, Miss Aldrich and Mr. Burgess drove to Watertown to be married. After the ceremony, the two started home in a wagon drawn by a team. On arriving at the place where Doland is now located, they met a man who had lost his way. He stood in a dazed state, in front of his horse and buggy. The couple persuaded him to go to Hastings with them. At Hastings they found that snow had sifted through his clothing and covered his entire body. His hands and feet were frosted. The Burgesses cared for him so successfully that he was able to continue on his way the next day to Clyde Post Office, two and one-half miles east of Ashton.

For a time the Burgesses lived on the Southeast Quarter of Section 20, and then later moved their house to their homestead on the Northwest Quarter of Section 28. Five children were born to them. One son, Ray, lived on the homestead until a few years ago, with his wife Anita, a girl from Nice, France, whom he met and married there while he was serving in the American Infantry Forces during World War I. A grandson still lives on the home place.

Mr. Burgess died October 28, 1924, and Mrs. Burgess died January 15, 1932.

FREDERICK O. CHILD

Frederick O. Child, one of Spink County's first pioneers and one of the "seventy-niners" was a prominent citizen in Three Rivers Township where he and his sons were engaged in diversified farming with a marked degree of success. He was a native of Drummerston, Vermont and was born December 15, 1837, and was next to the youngest in a family of nine children born to Reverend Eber and Mary (Tyler) Child, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New Hampshire. The Child family is of Welsh extraction.

He moved from his native state with his parents when he was seven years of age and settled in Rock County, Wisconsin. His parents were in strained circumstances and the work of earning a living was his responsibility. He left Rock County for Dakota Territory on April 1, 1879. During the journey, he was advised by Mr. F. I. Fisher to locate on the James River. Arriving at Watertown, he joined a party of seven land seekers and by the aid of a compass reached the James River at a place east of the present site of Redfield, known as Belcher's Ford. There camp was established on Section 25, in Three Rivers Township. Search was made for locations and a few days later Mr. Child suddenly discovered the famous "Council Rock" near a collection of human bones.

During the spring months Mr. Child chose a homestead and tree claim, after which he returned to Wisconsin and did not permanently settle on his land until the year 1880. He and his wife Mary had six children, Charlie, Luella, Margaret, Ruth, Anne, Harry and Art.

Some of the Child neighbors during that time were the Wests, Lamberts, Spears, and across the river were the Rogers, a Methodist minister in Ashton, and a Mattson family.

The blizzard of January 12, 1888, was an historic date to the settlers in that vicinity. The day before was warm with a south wind. The Child children, Harry and Margaret rode their horses to school on the morning of the 12th of January. The horses were left in a barn across the street from the school. About 10:30 in the forenoon the storm began, like the roar of an earthquake; the wind howeled, and the air was a mass of white whirling snow. The school was a bedlam; the teacher locked the door of the schoolhouse and kept the children in the building. Sometime about one o'clock the parents began coming for their children. Margaret was taken home with a friend. Harry, concerned over the horses, struggled to the barn and found enough straw for them for the rest of the day and night. Later he went home with the son of the tailor in Ashton, and spent the night there. The next morning the two of them rode their horses over the crusted snow to the Child farm two and one-half miles from town. The family had had a difficult time during the storm, and had run out of fuel. After using all that was available, they burned all the seed corn they had saved for spring planting, and even started to burn the furniture.

The spring of 1897 brought reverses of fortune when the floods destroyed much of the stock and did great damage to Mr. Child's home. "Grandpa" Child woke up one morning and the water from the flood was up to his bed. He did not believe the water would rise that high. Art, Harry and Ralph Watkins were sleeping in the barn loft. They had lifted the one cow, about thirty sheep, many chickens, pigs, dishes, bedding and all household goods they could into the hay loft. Grandma Child and the smaller children had been taken to town to stay till it was over. After the water crested, people came in boats and took the stock (in boats) as far as the railroad track to clear ground. The stock stayed there until the water receded. The family lived in a house in town temporarily. The water remained in the house for about two weeks.

After it was over, the family moved back and the cleaning up began. It proved to be a discouraging job, but spring crops were put in and before long they were back to normal.

Grandpa Childs died in 1911 and Grandma moved to Redfield. Harry Childs and his wife, Anna, and the four girls resided on the farm for many years. Harry lived there for seventy-two years. His daughters were: Helen, Frances, Harriet and Betty.

Much happiness and sorrow transpired since that time. The remaining families are living on the West Coast. Luella has been gone for many years. Margaret is buried in Washington, Ruth, Art, Anne and Harry are living out their remaining years in Washington and Oregon. It seems the end of the Pioneer Era, one we all like to hear about and reminisce with our children growing up in the "Atomic Age."

EDWARD OAKLEY CHURTON

Edward Oakley Churton filed on a quarter section of land in Dakota Territory in May, 1882, at the United States Land Office in Watertown, Dakota Territory, the said land being in what is now Spink County, the Southeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 114, Range 61, later known as LaDelle corner. He lived on this land until his death, October 31, 1933.

Born in Vernon, New York, March 10, 1848, son of John Churton and Sophia Fuller Churton. He was married June 2, 1875 to Alice Rosanna Paddock of Camden, New York. Two children were born to this union.

Mrs. Churton died March 13, 1935. Both he and his wife were buried in the Doland cemetery.

In 1878 Mr. Churton came to Zumbrota, Minnesota and entered into a partnership with his brother-in-law Richard H. Downing, selling farm machinery. Later the business was moved to Red Wing, Minnesota, and finally the partnership was dissolved.

During the summer of 1882, he sold the business, loaded a car with farm machinery, household goods, lumber for house, two cows, four horses, and many other items. He arrived at Cavour siding, unloaded his goods onto his wagons, and, with only corner mounds and compass, headed for his claim. Here he spent the summer, building the house, a four-room, one and a half story, structure, with a shingle roof, a sod barn, dug a well, and broke twenty acres of land. A few years later he built a fairly large barn and had a barn-raising, a truly pioneer festivity. These two buildings still stand, in very good condition, although the farm is not now in the family hands.

Mr. Churton was instrumental in the organization of the Township, which was named Antelope because many antelope then roamed the prairies. He was interested in the organization of the LaDelle school, and a member of the school board. He and his wife worked for the establishment of a Sunday School and church services, at first in the homes, and later in the schoolhouse.

He was one of the early postmasters at LaDelle and he organized a Creamery Association. A creamery was built at LaDelle corner, which served a wide community. Through his efforts, a rural telephone company came into being, the first communications being carried over the barbed wire fences. Later it was taken over by the LaDelle Telephone Company.

He was a Republican and believed in man working out his own destiny. He was ashamed that at one time during the early drought, he had accepted a load of "County corn" for his four hogs.

He was honored and respected by all who knew him. He died with his faith as strong in the future as it was when he was a young man and first settled in Dakota Territory.

His son, John E. Churton and daughter, Edith R. Churton now live in Huron, South Dakota.

PHILIP HENRY CLARKE

Philip Henry Clarke, his wife, Charlotte, and seven children: Henry, Mary, Ella, Elsie, Mira, Gordon, and Robert; came from Dresden, Ontario, Canada, in the spring of 1881 and homesteaded five miles east and one and one-half miles south of Mellette. They came by train to Watertown and drove out from there by team and wagon to the sod shanty on their claim which had been built the fall before.

Philip's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Will Hedges and family, homesteaded two years previously on the farm now owned by Mrs. Orva Hammer. Roy Hedges did much surveying in this area.

In the early years there were many hardships. Their diaries tell of the drought and the constant need of rains.

Mary, Mira and Gordon each homesteaded on a quarter of land northeast of their parents' claim.

Ella was married to Robert Mitchell who had come from Iowa and homesteaded one-half mile east of the Clarke home. In 1887, they returned to Iowa. In 1912 they returned to South Dakota and bought a farm one mile east of Brentford.

Mary and Mira attended Normal School at Madison, South Dakota. Later, they each in turn taught the home school, Tetonka No. 1, located one-half mile south of their home.

The winter of the big blizzard of 1887-1883 Tetonka School No. 1 was taught by Ruben Styles who lived two miles north of the school. He took the pupils to the Clarke home on the day the blizzard struck by driving the team on the east side of the tree claim which extended from the schoolhouse to the Clarke home.

Among those attending the school at this time were Gordon and Robert Clarke, William Wackerow, five Whitney girls, Mamie and George Haven, Roy, Bert and Ruby Hedges, Ed and Ped Akers, and Ralph, Judd, Leon and Janet Towne.

The Tetonka store and postoffice was the Robert Towne home one-half mile west of the schoolhouse. The supplies were hauled from Watertown by team and wagon. The stage came almost every day from Watertown to Raymond, Belcher's Ford, Old Ashton, The Tetonka postoffice, then on to Rondell. The railroad went through in 1884. After that, the stage disappeared.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Henry Clarke built a new home in Mellette and retired from the farm in 1904. Robert continued to live on the old homestead. He was married to Marie G. Strome November 16, 1904. They lived here until March, 1913, when Robert built a new home one and one-half miles north of the old homestead.

Mr. Osmond Aslackson Strome and his wife Bertha Johenne Madson Ronen Strome, (Mrs. Robert Clarke's parents), came to America in the spring of 1883. They homesteaded seven miles northeast of Conde. Mrs. Strome's mother, Mrs. Anne Gurine Madson Ronen came with them to this new land. Mr. Ronen had died in Norway previous to their departure for America.

Mr. and Mrs. Strome had five children: Albert, Marie, Anna, George and William.

Marie was born January 15, 1885, and married Robert Clarke November 16, 1904. She has lived all her life in Spink County.

WILLIAM CLARK FAMILY

William D. Clark and Lura C. Cunningham were married at Farmer City, Illinois on March 1, 1882. They immediately shipped out to Dakota Territory, landing at Ashton, then the county seat of Spink County. They filed homestead rights on the NE¼ of Section 13, Tetonka Township 119, Range 62. His father, Carrington W. Clark and younger brother, Robert E. Lee Clark, then eighteen years of age, came with them.

C. W. Clark filed on the SE Quarter of Section 12, Tetonka Township 119, Range 62, where they lived only a few years, then moved east of Turton where his two daughters and husbands had homesteaded, and about 1891 went back to Illinois.

Among their belongings William Clark brought a team of horses, one of which died while they were still in Ashton, so he traded the other one for a team of oxen, with which they did their hauling. C. W. Clark brought a team of white mules which was also used.

After building their shanties, they put up sod stables for the animals.

On December 2, 1882, a son, (Guy Emmet) was born to William and Lura Clark. He was among the first births in the Township. However the child was always very frail, and died in September, 1885, and was buried under the willow tree down in the meadow, but was later moved to the Conde Cemetery, and is buried by the three Joe Miller boys who died of diphtheria in those early days. Joe Miller had made Guy's casket from solid walnut lumber.

On March 26, 1885, a second son, Roy Crues, was born. Then on January 5, 1887, twins Joe Spencer and Lide Ruth were born. They were no doubt the first twins born in the area. People came from many miles to see them. Thus, all the William Clark children were pioneers, Lide being the only one still living.

In June, 1883, Robert E. Lee (called Lee) Clark, married Etta Spencer, daughter of Henry and Sarah Spencer who homesteaded one mile south and a half mile east in Benton Township. Their first child, Pearl, was born May 16, 1884, and in 1886 they had a son, Clifford, both living in Boise, Idaho now.

Later the William Clarks went to Missouri where Lura Cunningham had been born March 1, 1856 and where she lived until she was nine years of age, or until after the close of the Civil War, hence they told many tales of the hardships of the War, and about the freeing of their slaves, that Lura's father, David B. Cunningham, had gone back to Virginia to take over the estate of his mother, his father having died. The family had later returned to Missouri, and Lura and some of her brothers had gone from there to Illinois.

The William Clarks, however, stayed in Missouri only four years, and then returned to South Dakota, living in and near Conde, until 1908 when Lide Ruth married Leonard J. Fridley and the rest of the William Clark family went to Tower City, North Dakota. All are buried there.

Both Ray and Lide were teachers in the rural schools of Benton, Sumner and Beotia Townships for several years.

The Lee Clarks went to Cherokee, Iowa about the same time the William Clarks went to Missouri. They later lived in Canada for a few years, but did not return to Dakota.

The Len Fridleys lived in Brookings for six years, having attended College there, then moved back to the Fridley farm in Benton Township where his people had settled in 1884. They now live at 779 Minnesota Avenue, S. W., Huron, South Dakota.

Mrs. Leonard J. (Lide R. Clark) Fridley

MR. S. W. CLARK

Mr. S. W. Clark, skilled attorney and politician, with a far-reaching reputation as a brilliant trial lawyer, was a resident of Spink County, for some sixty years, all of which, with the exception of a few years in Doland, were spent in Redfield.

Samuel Wesley Clark, or "Wesley Clark" as he was familiarly known, was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Pliny Clark and was born in Platteville, Wisconsin, December 28, 1872. When he was ten years of age, he came with his parents to Dakota Territory, where his father took a homestead in northern Faulk County. In later years, the township in which this homestead was located was named "Wesley" in honor of this Redfield attorney.

Upon completing the grades in the rural school near his home, while still in his 'teens', Wesley taught a country school in Hand County for two terms.

After hearing the lawyer, Thomas Sterling of Redfield plead a case, he decided to stop teaching and study law. He then came to Redfield, lived at the Thomas Sterling home, and in order to earn sufficient funds to attend Redfield College did the chores around the Sterling home and the law office.

Having graduated from the Normal Course of the College, he became a clerk and a student in the law office of Sterling & Morris. Having been admitted to the bar in 1898, he went to Doland to practice law in the office formerly owned by E. B. Korns.

Thomas Sterling moved to Vermillion in 1901 to become the first Dean of the Law School at the University of South Dakota. Wesley Clark then returned to Redfield and formed a partnership with Mr. Sterling under the name of Sterling and Clark.

Cloyd D. Sterling, son of Thomas Sterling, graduated in 1904 from the Law School at the University of South Dakota, and became a partner in his father's law firm in Redfield.

On February 7, 1900 Mr. Clark had married Daisy G. Labrie of Doland. Twin sons, Sterling H. and Stanton L.; and Elmer A. were born to them. Mrs. Clark died on November 26, 1915.

Mr. Clark married Essie Eggler of Redfield on August 14, 1919. They were the parents of one daughter, Mavis, now Mrs. Oscar Stradinger of Bethesda, Maryland.

Sterling H. Clark, his son, now practices law in Belle Fourche, South Dakota. Stanton L. Clark, upon being discharged from the Army, returned to Redfield and became a member of the law firm of Sterling and Clark. A few years later he moved to Rapid City to work in the Selective Service Department of the Army, and in 1960 was commissioned Colonel. The youngest son, Elmer A. Clark is a real estate agent in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and was Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge of the State of Michigan for a year.

Wesley Clark was very successful in his chosen profession of law. In 1900 to 1904 he served as States Attorney of Spink County; in 1906 to 1910 he held the office of Attorney General of South Dakota; in 1921 to 1926 he was the United States Attorney for South Dakota. He was a member of the South Dakota State Bar Association, and its president in 1929 and 1930. He was also a member of the American Bar Association.

Mr. Clark was a member and active supporter of the Redfield Congregational Church, a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Yelduz Shrine, and the Kiwanis Club.

He was a lover of the out-of-doors; he enjoyed hunting and fishing, especially at Enemy Swim and Lake Kampeska. His was a kind, humorous, and courteous nature. He enjoyed people, and entertained them with his clever, friendly stories. He died at Redfield on January 5, 1949, at the age of 76 years.

SAMUEL LOUIS CLEVELAND

Samuel Louis Cleveland, familiarly known as Lew, was a Dakota Territory pioneer. He and his boyhood friend, L. A. Morrill, came from Mazomanie, Wisconsin in 1881. They arrived in Mellette the 16th day of May, purchased a walking plow, flipped a coin to see who would pay for their first meal in Dakota, and set out in quest of virgin land not yet claimed by the early settlers.

Joined by two other friends, James Huggins, and Owen Edwards, they settled in a claim shanty placed in the center of a Section of what is now Beotia Township, Spink County.

Lew was married to Annie Borwell on February 2, 1897. Her parents, Edward and Elizabeth Borwell, were also pioneer settlers of Beotia Township.

Besides being a good farmer, Lew was interested in the social life of the community, was assessor of Beotia Township for many years, and also served on its school board.

Lew and Annie retired to Conde in 1918. He died in 1930 and she in 1944.

Nine children were born to them, their eldest child Mayme, at Conde, Dakota Territory, in 1888. Joseph died in 1912, Paul in 1914, Edith in 1953, and Lloyd in 1957. The surviving children Mayme Easterley, Hazel Mathieu, Alice Miles, Nina Hapfner, and Walter Cleveland, are all living in either North or South Dakota, the original Dakota Territory.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR D. COLEMAN

On March 8, 1880, Wesley Coleman and his fourteen year old son, Arthur DeWitt, left Madison, Wisconsin, in an immigrant wagon with three horses. They were heading for Dakota Territory to take up land and start a new home. At Winona, Minnesota they decided to rent a boxcar and come the rest of the way by train. They arrived in Watertown, Dakota Territory, on the evening of March 11, 1880 and spent the next day there getting supplies, starting on March 13th west to the James River Valley. It was snowing when they reached the road house where Henry is now located, but they decided to go on. It grew dark and the blizzard was such that they had to go ahead of the horses with a lantern to keep on the road. They finally saw a light and discovered that they were at the Mike Kelly Roadhouse. The place was packed, but they managed to get a place big enough on the floor where they could use their own blankets and so get by for the night.

Wesley Coleman had a soldier's declaratory filed on a quarter of land but was a little late and someone had jumped the claim. He took up a homestead three miles east of Ashton on the James River, filing on this land in May, 1880. Wesley and Arthur built a sod and frame house which was completed the first of July. Elizabeth Bishop Coleman and children, Grace, Eva, and George arrived in Watertown on July 4th. During the week's time his father was away getting the family, Arthur remained on the claim with Indians on the warpath less than twenty miles away.

The day the family arrived, Drifting Goose and his Sioux tribe camped for the night right across the river from the Coleman claim shack. They kept the family awake all night with their war dances, tom-toms, and hideous war cries, terrifying the women on their first night in their new home. At daybreak the Indians loaded their pack ponies and started back for Armadale. Later that day, two hundred cavalrymen arrived to escort them to Crow Creek Reservation.

This was but the first of many hardships that the Colemans were to endure. Their first winter brought severe blizzards which made travel to Watertown for supplies impossible. The cow went dry and provisions were very low. The family ground wheat in a coffee mill until it wore out, and then used a mortar and pestle, making a dough from the rough flour, water, and yeast. This bread, with frozen potatoes, sustained them until spring when the men were able to reach Watertown and bring back supplies. A wonderful and unforgettable Thanksgiving feast was enjoyed when they returned home.

The family remained on the homestead for about ten years. Wesley Coleman died July 16, 1887. Arthur tried to farm the homestead, but crop failures were discouraging. He took employment with his brother-in-law in the grocery mercantile business at Elkton. Later he worked for Jewett Brothers of Sioux Falls, making his sales trips from town to town by bicycle. He returned to Elkton as a partner in a retail general store and at this time met his future wife, Lenna I. Young. They were married at Elkton September 25, 1895.

In 1898 Arthur and his family came back to Ashton and opened a hardware, furniture, and undertaking business in partnership with his brother, George. He continued there for twenty years and then bought out a furniture and undertaking business in Redfield, in 1918. He and his son, Arthur Leonard Coleman, conducted this business under the familiar name of Coleman and Son.

The Coleman family loved music and gave generously of their time and talents in that direction. It may be said that Arthur and his talented wife, Lenna, literally sang their way into the hearts of the distressed. They also took an active part in civic and public affairs. Among civic projects Arthur helped promote, were the development of Cottonwood Lake, Redfield Dam and Lake, Redfield City Park, and the transfer of Greenlawn Cemetery to municipal ownership and control.

Arthur passed through the heavy snow storms of March and April in 1880 without shelter, except covered wagon. He experienced the severe storms of 1881-82, the harrowing blizzard of January 12, 1888. He took part in the County Seat War between Ashton and Redfield. He and his wife worked together, helping the sick and bereaved families during the terrible influenza epidemic of 1918. Together they endured the hardships, faced the dangers, and survived the depressions, from which came the courage, devotion, industry and success that have crowned the lives of these Spink County pioneers. Mr. Coleman died in 1947. Mrs. Coleman resides at 201 East 7th Avenue, Redfield, South Dakota.

FRANK and MARIA CONKLIN

Francis Marion Conklin was born June 3, 1841, in Urbana, Ohio. Maria Dome Conklin was born April 10, 1851, in Warsaw, Indiana. They married on December 26, 1869, in Utica, Missouri. They arrived in Dakota Territory late in the spring of 1882, in a covered wagon, and filed on a homestead about eighteen miles east of Mellette, after driving over 700 miles, and being on the road seven weeks with their five children, two boys, Charles and Harry, 12, and 10 years old, and three girls, Frances, Eva, and Laura, 8, 6, and 4 years respectively.

It was too late to break ground and sow grain, but they planted rutabagas and garden. Frank hauled the lumber from Mellette and built a frame house 14x16 on the northeast corner of the homestead, a sod barn for the team and cow and two hens and a rooster which they brought on the long journey from Missouri. He dug a well which furnished the home with good cold water through all the years; Maria hung the milk and butter in the well to keep it cold through the hot summertime. Frank and the boys farmed the homestead and also extra rented land.

Maria lived a typical pioneer mother's life, sewing by hand, made jackets and trousers out of the wagon sheet for her boys; washed and ironed and baked bread for the bachelor homesteaders in the area, and did work outside and inside the house, as did the other pioneer women of that day.

In the year 1885, a baby girl, Stella Fanny, was born to them; in 1887 another girl, Florence Dome, was born; in 1890, their eighth child came, and she was named Bessie Arvilla.

Frank and Maria still lived on the homestead, having enlarged the small house as the family grew. The years passed, and the five Missouri children all married. Then, in 1903, Stella, born and raised in that house, was married to Ben R. Cowan.

The Conklins then sold the home and taking Florence, who was also born in Dakota Territory, and Bessie, with them, they returned to Utica, Missouri.

In 1917, both of the girls being married, they again sold their home and located at Pomona, California, where several of their children lived.

F. M. Conklin passed away February 10, 1926. Maria Conklin, still very active, was accidentally struck by an automobile and killed in the street, on September 27, 1928.

Both are interred in the Pomona Cemetery, at Pomona, California.

FRANK W. COOLIDGE.

Frank W. Coolidge was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, March 9, 1858, and was the second child of a family of seven children born to Aaron and Anna Elliot Coolidge. His father was of New England descent, and his mother was a native of New Castle-on-Tyne, England.

After completing his common school education, Frank took a short normal course at Oshkosh, Wisconsin and then a business course at Madison. He then taught school and worked on a farm until April, 1880, when he went to Spink County, Dakota Territory. He established himself on land in Lodi Township. Here he farmed and taught school. He accepted a position in the warehouse in Frankfort in 1884, and went to Redfield as agent for the Winona Milling Company the following year. Sickness compelled him to resign and he went to the pine region of Wisconsin in 1886 where he regained his health after several months of outdoor life.

He returned to Redfield and began the study of law in the office of Charles T. Howard, and was admitted to the bar in May, 1892. He was elected County Judge in 1898.

He married Mabel Williams, a native of Wisconsin, in October, 1897. Four children were born to them: Jessamine M., Medora I., J. Wesley, and Frank H.

Judge Coolidge died February 9, 1925, and Mrs. Coolidge June 17, 1955.

MR. AND MRS. RALPH COWLES

Ralph Cowles was born March 4, 1836 at Ashtabula, Ohio, and died December 3, 1926 at Pasadena, California.

His childhood and early youth were spent in Ohio. At the age of twenty years, he moved, with his parents, to Wisconsin, where he spent twenty years.

In 1860 he married Susan Ann Chase. To them ten children were born: Ida, Charles, Arthur, Howard, Susie, Clarence, Elmer, Walter, Bertha and Leona.

In 1879 he moved with his family to Dakota Territory and settled on a homestead near Mellette, one of the very earliest settlers in this territory. It was on the homestead that his wife died in 1883, preceding him in death by forty-three years.

In 1901, Mr. Cowles moved to Mellette where he lived until 1915, with the exception of two years (1909-11) when he went to Ashtabula, Ohio.

In 1915, he moved to Pasadena, California, where he remained until the time of his death. He was one of the first volunteers in the Civil War, serving two years. He was a member of the G. A. R. at Northville and later at Pasadena. He was also a member of the Universalist Church. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, at Rondell, December 10, 1926.

Surviving him were: two daughters, Mrs. D. C. Baker, of Red Elm, South Dakota; Mrs. N. E. Ireland, Cloverton, Minnesota; three sons, Clarence of Mellette, Elmer of Long Beach, California, and Walter of Stratford, South Dakota; and a sister, Mrs. Jane Bentley, of Baraboo, Wisconsin.

EDWARD AND SARAH CATHERINE CRANEFIELD.

Edward Cranefield was born in a log house on a farm in Dane County, Wisconsin, on November 5, 1856, the son of James and Maria Cranefield, pioneers who had come in 1850 from England, in a sailing vessel. A little daughter was taken ill and died at sea. She was buried at Buffalo, New York. Four sons were born to them after they came to Wisconsin, of which Edward was the third.

In the spring of 1857, when Edward was six months of age, his mother took him with her to England for a visit. They were gone several months. Before starting on the voyage, the mother bought a small leather covered trunk to carry clothing. It was later given to Edward and is still among the keepsakes he left.

Edward loved the old log house and long after it was gone he would return and find the spot where it once stood, near a spring.

When the snow was deep, the father made a path to the schoolhouse by drawing a big log through the snow with oxen. The only light in the log house at night was from tallow candles. Edward was very happy when he was allowed to stay home from school to make candles. As a small boy, he had to carry water from the spring, and the others cut wood and raised poultry and garden. As he grew older, he milked cows and helped with the field work. He attended rural school and took an active part in debating. He was a member of the Grange, and took part in other social activities of the community. For a short time, he attended school at Madison, which was five miles from his home.

He continued farming in the summer, picking corn and doing other odd jobs for neighbors to earn extra money.

At the age of twenty-five years, he decided to take the advice of the great journalist, Horace Greeley, who said, "Go West, young man." On March 14, 1882, he bought a ticket for Ashton, Dakota Territory. He arrived at Ashton, which was then the end of the railroad, on March 18. The W. C. Kiser family, who had come to Spink County in 1881, had been old friends and neighbors of his in Wisconsin, so the next day he rode with the mail carrier, who carried mail from Ashton to Groton. He rode to Tetonka Postoffice in Tetonka Township and started walking east toward Kiser's, which was about four miles. He met Mr. Kiser on the road and went home with him. He stayed with Kisers until he could get located and build a house.

Mr. Henry Chapman helped him build his house. He located first on the Southeast Quarter of Section 10, Township 119, Range 62, which was one-half mile east of the Kisers. He later homesteaded the quarter south of his house, which was the Northeast Quarter of Section 15, Township 119, Range 62. He moved his house there, and had a well dug. He was thankful to have a home of his own.

At that time, there was danger from both Indians and prairie fires. Every night before retiring he looked out to see if there were fires. Sometimes there were fires in every direction. He said a prairie fire in Dakota wind would run as fast as a good horse. There was no breaking done, and no protection for the house, so, hearing that Homer Hacket of Armadale had oxen to sell, he started walking northwest to Armadale, a distance of twelve miles. There were no roads, but he finally reached Armadale and bought the oxen. Then he went to Mellette, and bought a plow. The first thing he did, then, was to plow a firebreak around his house.

In the summer he started breaking sod for crops.

Speaking of wild game, he said, "The last buffalo that the Indians left was killed in the fall of 1881". There were a few antelope, coyotes, foxes, but badgers were plentiful. The best game bird was the prairie chicken. From daylight to dark the hum of the prairie chicken was heard, and wild geese and ducks flew over by the millions. There were robins, highholders, mourning doves and meadow larks.

The oxen, which were very slow, were replaced by horses. Edward "batched" for several years, and spent some time in the winter with his people in Wisconsin. In March, 1888 he was married to Miss Sarah Catherine Spencer, the daughter of Jacob G. and Phoebe Jane Spencer. At the age of twenty-one she had come to Dakota Territory with her parents and later homesteaded on the Northeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 119, Range 62, near her parents' home. She was a member of the Society of Friends. For a time she stayed with her grandparents and clerked in their country store. To this union the following children were born: Eda, Mabel, Daisy, Sherman, and Mary.

About the year 1890, drought came to Dakota and crops were poor for several years. Many of the settlers lost their land and moved out of Dakota. People found it hard to buy fuel, food and clothing for a family. Times were hard, for the Cranefield family, as well as the other settlers, and in the fall of 1895, they rented their land and drove to Wisconsin in a covered wagon, taking their four small children, three horses and a dog. It took them twenty-one days to reach their destination. They built a small house and lived there, and Edward farmed with his brother for two years. They raised stock and had good crops.

Then the family returned to their South Dakota home. They shipped back a car of livestock which helped them to get started again. Times were soon better. Crops and prices improved. They planted trees, built fences and had better buildings. For many years a pump and windmill replaced the old pulley and buckets. Then in about 1908, they had an artesian well drilled, which, to them, was a luxury. They loved their home, and continued to live on the old homestead the rest of their lives.

They observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary on March 26, 1938. Edward Cranefield died at his home on November 17, 1938, at the age of 82 years, after a brief illness. One month later, Sarah Catherine died on December 15, 1938. She had been bed-ridden for more than five years. They are buried in the Conde cemetery. The Golden Rule was their guiding star. Another chapter of pioneer history was closed.

Written by Mabel Cranefield Dixon, for the Dakota Territory Centennial, 1861-1961.

WILLIAM R. DAWES.

In the very early Eighties, William R. Dawes was 2nd Lieutenant in the Redfield National Guard, and his brother, Fred E. Dawes was Lieutenant.

The list of officers were selected from the volunteers.

Fred Dawes was the manager of the Spink County Bank in Redfield, the first bank in Spink County, which was opened January 1, 1882. His brother, William was his assistant. They were cousins of Charles G. Dawes, late Vice-President of the United States, and William was closely associated with the Vice-President in the great financial and banking business in Chicago.

MR. AND MRS. C. W. DERR.

Chalkley Wilbur Derr and Mary Evaline Chapman Derr came to Spink County in the spring of 1888. A short time earlier Mr. Derr had come to Turton to assume the management of an elevator. For a time after their arrival, they lived in part of the elevator office, but soon moved a building in from the country and located it on the corner a block east of the elevator, where they established their home.

Though this was their first residence in Spink County, both Mr. and Mrs. Derr were pioneers in Faulk County. Chalkley Wilbur Derr was born August 27, 1868, at Olin, Iowa, the son and second child of Chalkley Harris Derr and Eliza Jane Campf Derr. Chalkley Harris Derr had been a soldier in the Civil War, having enlisted from Columbianna County, Ohio. After his discharge he married Eliza Jane Campf, of Salem, Ohio and they emigrated to Iowa where he was appointed postmaster at Olin in 1873. Chalkley Harris Derr came to Faulk County in the summer of 1882 and Mrs. Derr and their three children joined him in the spring of 1883. They were located at a settlement known as LaFoon about five miles east of the present site of Faulkton. At this time, Chalkley Wilbur Derr was fifteen years old. One of the first winters they were here, Wilbur earned his living by hauling coal and supplies from Ashton to the hotel at LaFoon.

Mary Evaline Chapman, the second daughter of C. S. and Pamelia Chapman, was born July 4, 1863, at Tipton, Iowa. She came with her brothers to Ashton in March, 1885, where her father, who had come before, met them to take them to their new home a few miles north of LaFoon. Eva later filed on and proved up on a claim in northern Faulk County.

Wilbur Derr and Eva Chapman were married March 27, 1887, in Faulk County and moved to Turton, Spink County, in the spring of 1888. The next year Mr. Derr bought the elevator where he had worked and shortly after that, he established a lumber yard and hardware and implement business.

In 1904 the Derrs built a new home a block east of the Congregational Church. This home is now owned by the Oscar Wolner family. The Derrs were instrumental in establishing and building the Congregational Church and were staunch supporters all the years they lived in the community. Mr. Derr joined the Masonic Lodge at Frankfort in March, 1892 and continued in Masonry for sixty-one years. He was a Shriner and Thirty-Second Degree Mason.

His business began to expand as he acquired other lumber yards and elevators. In 1905 the family moved to Mitchell, South Dakota, from which point he was better able to supervise his holdings. At one time he owned and supervised nine elevators and seven lumber yards.

Seven children, two girls and five boys, were born to the Derrs. Charles Chalkley was a baby when they came to Turton. All the other children are native to Spink County. They are: Mildred E. (Mrs. G. H. Draper, Webster City, Iowa); Benjamin H., Turton, South Dakota; Wilbur T. (died in France during World War I); Florence C., Webster City, Iowa; Clarence R. (deceased); and Lawrence L. (deceased). Benjamin operates the elevator at Turton.

Mrs. Derr died July 22, 1952, at Mitchell, and Mr. Derr April 3, 1953, at St. Petersburg, Florida.

MR. CHARLES H. DRAYER.

Charles H. Drayer was born in Illinois in 1859, the oldest in a family of five children. His grandfather Drayer was a cooper by trade, and was of Pennsylvania Dutch extraction. The mother was of the same descent and was a native of Maryland. He located in Illinois at an early date ,and engaged in farming.

Charles attended the common schools and later completed a course in the Bryant and Stratton Business College in Chicago, after which he returned to the home farm. In 1883 he located in Spink County near Turton. Here he lived in a house and granary combination. In 1894, he moved to Turton and started a general merchandise business. In the fall of

1898 he began buying wheat with the firm of Helm and Drayer.

He was appointed postmaster at Turton during Cleveland's administration.

ALONZO DRULEY.

Shortly before his twenty-first birthday, Alonzo Druley left his parental home in Atlanta, Illinois, and came to Dakota Territory. The senior member of the group was Wash Wilhelm who was accompanied by several of his sons. They arrived in Ashton in the spring of 1882, camping the first night near Snake Creek, midway between Ashton and Athol.

Mr. Druley spent the first winter with the senior Wilhelm family. A short time later, Druley and George Wilhelm filed on a half section of land east of Athol, near the Faulk County line. They built their shanty on the quarter line where George and Lon had staked their claim.

Lon wanted to return to the Ashton area and later made a bargain for a quarter northwest of the town. He bought some equipment from a discouraged pioneer who was returning to Illinois. During the winter of 1888 he boarded with the Will McCauley family and helped take care of the stock.

Mr. Druley lived in Ashton for a period during the winter months and clerked in the N. J. Christensen general store which was located in the building which now houses the IOOF Lodge. He was active in the early years of IOOF No. 45, and a charter member of Ruth Rebekah No. 6.

The official record shows that he was issued a deed for his quarter of land by Spink County on July 3, 1893, for a $50.00 fee. A patent was issued to him by the United States on November 30, 1900. The land tax for the first year was $18.08. He met Anne Corcoran, a young woman from Lyons, Iowa, who had come to Dakota in order to teach school. Later they were married.

The William McCauleys, the H. E. Thissells and the Will Hausers were some of their neighbors. As the years passed, they raised and educated their five children, three of whom, Blanche, Helen and John, still call Spink County their home. Carl and Mary Belle live in the state of California. Anne Druley died in 1927, and Lon in 1929.

HARRY EENIGENBURG.

The year 1883 was a beginning of a new era for the James River Valley. Every foot of land had been filed on the previous year, either for homesteads, pre-emptions or tree claims. People came from Europe and every state in the Union. Many took their first citizenship papers here. The valley looked beautiful with its rolling country covered with buffalo grass. The soil was rich and easily worked. The weather was usually good and the rainfall sufficient. The hard part for the people was to get settled on their claims, for they had no homes to move into or any water handy. Many had sold all they had for little or nothing to get here. They had no vehicles of their own so hired a dray to haul them and their few belongings to their claims. Usually things were dumped on the ground. As soon as possible the owner broke the prairie and planted corn, beans, potatoes, melons and pumpkins. As a rule, crops were good.

The year 1884 was better as the people had cultivated soil to work. Prices were also good that year.

The year 1885 was still better. The weather was good and crops were excellent. Wheat was a dollar, five cents a bushel. Many remarked that it was no trick to become rich in this country.

As a result, in 1886, people planted all they could. On June 25th, a heat wave that lasted two days, wilted all the crops to the ground. That was the beginning of a big change in Spink County. People were in debt for their farm implements and became discouraged. Many moved back to the homes from which they came. Others, with more courage and enough to tide them over, stayed.

In the spring of 1887 we again planted heavily and the harvest was fair. However, the prices were disastrous. Oats sold at twelve cents a bushel, corn at fifteen cents, and wheat at twenty-two cents. It did not pay to harvest our crops. More people left the country.

The year 1888 was a poor year but the three following years were very good, and the rest up to 1900 were fairly good. Many farms were sold in 1889 but none of them commanded any kind of decent price. The ones who remained, and took the good and the bad years alike, fared better than those who left.

Settling on free claims in Dakota entailed many hardships in the beginning in the years 1882 and 1883. People rushed to their claims to prevent claim-jumping. Railroads charged three cents per mile to travel whether one had a seat or not. Women and children slept on their luggage and men slept in the aisles of the cars. Emigrant cars were treated in any manner and many were sidetracked along the lines. Freight charges were exorbitant.

After 1883 claim jumping seemed, for the most part, to stop and a fine type of people settled in the James River Valley. They were a sturdy honest hard-working class of people. Among them were school teachers, mechanics and professional people. All did their best to change the plains into a farming country.

In the later years, the beautiful farms disappeared, and the buildings needed paint and repair. Barns were ready to topple over. Fences were down, ditches were filled in and gardens were gone. There were few horses or cattle. The occupant was usually a hired man or a renter who took no interest in the place. The owner lived in town and lamented his small income and high taxes. Most of the farms were mortgaged and the younger people had moved to the cities, and the older ones had become discouraged. The whole farming country of the middle west was in a deplorable condition, and much of the land had gone to weeds. Many farmers had become extravagant and neglected their duty. Run-down farms were the natural result.

JOSEPH ELSOM.

Joseph Elsom homesteaded near Northville in 1881. He was the first postmaster in Northville and also owned a little store there. He was prominent in civic affairs, especially in G. A. R. The post was named for his brother. He served one year in the State Legislature.

C. K. THOMPSON

C. K. Thompson homesteaded near Northville in 1880. He served one year in the State Legislature in 1897. In 1906 he was ordained in the ministry, and served as a pastor in the Wesleyan Methodist Church for twelve years. He continued his farming at the same time. He organized the church at Mobridge and was pastor there for one year. He was President of the Dakota Conference from 1916 to 1924.

GEORGE R. WOODFORD.

George R. Woodford homesteaded near Northville in 1882. He taught school for several years, served on the township board, and one term in the State Legislature.

C. J. Mariner, O. C. Berge, and James Curtin were pioneers in Northville who served as County officers.

GEORGE JULIUS ENGLER.

George Julius Engler was born in Danzig, Germany in 1836 and grew to manhood there. For three years he served in the standing army of the Fatherland and then in 1862 he decided to come to America.

He started his new life in Detroit, Michigan and in 1864 he married Wilhelmina Wetzel. The latter was born in Wudskow, Prussia in 1843, and had come, when still a child, to Canada, and later to Detroit.

After the marriage of George and Wilhelmina Engler they migrated to Dawn, Missouri. Here seven children were born to the couple: Hulda, Elizabeth, Rudolph, Karoline, Arthur, Bertha, and William.

The Englers decided to try their luck in a new country, so in 1881 Mr. Engler, with his eldest daughter, sixteen year old Hulda, and most of their possessions, left Missouri in a covered wagon, headed for the plains of Dakota, to file on a claim. Having arrived there, they settled in what is now Beotia Township. Mr. Engler proceeded at once to build a sod house as all of his neighbors had done.

In the spring of 1882 Mrs. Engler and the rest of the family arrived in Ashton by train. Thus it was that the family was united again. Here they lived, loved, sorrowed and labored to transform the prairie into the prosperous country that it is today. Only grandchildren survive to see and enjoy the fruits of their labors.

MR. AND. MRS. D. P. FARGO.

"If a thing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well" was the adage that exemplified the life-long attitude of both Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Fargo, early pioneer residents of Doland, and themselves children of pioneering parents.

Denzel P. Fargo, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Fargo, was born in Ionia, Michigan in 1844. In 1840 his parents moved from Ohio to pioneer in the wilderness of Michigan. Here on a farm he spent his boyhood. After completing the elementary grades he attended the Poughkeepsie Business College and then combined carpentry with his farming.

In 1865 he married Sarah Divine, whose parents, Mr .and Mrs. Westbrook Divine, had previously come to Michigan by oxcart from New York State. Sarah was the first white child born in their township and she, with her three brothers, was raised in a typical pioneer home.

In 1882, having become acquainted with Frank H. Doland, the founder of the town of that name, Mr. Fargo decided to visit Doland, and at that time filed on a homestead in that locality. He returned to Michigan, sold his property, and in 1883 with his wife and four children, John, Ella, Charles and Ralph moved to Doland in Dakota Territory to make his new home.

Soon after their arrival in the town, Mr. Fargo and his sixteen year old son built a hotel, first in the town, and named it "The Fargo House". It was built to accommodate builders and railroad men and soon became known as one of the best hotels in the Territory.

Later Mr. Fargo constructed four schoolhouses and the first school building in Doland. For the country schools, he received $490.00 each for the material and the labor, and for the town school, $680.00.

Because of Mrs. Fargo's attractive personality and her skill as a housekeeper and a cook, the hotel became the popular center of the community. Here she sponsored dancing parties and raised funds for worthwhile community projects, such as the school bell, purchased in 1883, and still used to call Doland children to their studies.

In 1894 having been elected Register of Deeds of Spink County, Mr. Fargo sold his hotel and moved to Redfield. He served in this office for two terms and then returned to Doland where he bought the W. H. Else Hardware and Implement Store, which he operated with the help of his youngest son, Ralph. After a few years, Ralph accepted a position as state agent for the Cadillac Company and moved to Sioux Falls. He died in 1913.

The hardware store was destroyed by fire in 1913 and Mr. Fargo replaced the cement building with a brick one that still stands and bears his name. He retired from active business and then spent the greater part of his time caring for his invalid wife. She died in 1926, and he made his home with his grand-daughter Mrs. J. L. (Lucy) Long in the house he had built. At the age of eighty, he was elected mayor of Doland. He died in 1935 at the age of ninety years.

His second son, Charles, after attending college in Groton, farmed south of Doland until his death in 1923. He was married to Anna Upton and their three children are living: Clare in Texas, Richard in Omaha, and Marion (Mrs. Don McCarty) in Colorado.

Ella, after attending Redfield College, married C. Q. Hartshorn and lived in Colorado until her death in 1957. Her daughter died, but her sons, Denzel, Duane and Fred still live in Colorado.

John, the oldest son, went to Redfield in 1889 to clerk in a bank, then to Kentucky to work in another bank. There he met and married Jessie Belle Lair. She died shortly after the birth of her daughter, Lucy, and he returned to Redfield with the infant and a Negro nurse. The child was then reared by her grand-parents. He served as a cashier in the Bank of Redfield until 1902 when he purchased the Spink County Abstract Company. That same year he married Katherine Myers, daughter of another pioneer family. In 1908 he was named postmaster at Redfield, and held that position until 1916 when he became Vice President of the Redfield National Bank, a position he had until 1931. After two terms as County Treasurer and two as County Auditor, Mr. Fargo opened an insurance and real estate office on Sixth Street in Redfield. He kept this business until his death in 1952. During part of this time, his son-in-law, J. L. Long was a partner until the latter's death in 1951. Later, Mr. Fargo took into partnership his grandson, Denzel Fargo Long, who now owns and operates the J. D. Fargo Agency.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES FARNHAM

"Forty years hence, when the old settlers' society holds its annual meeting in this city, among the interesting reminiscences of the early settlement of this Territory, none will be more illustrative of pioneer life than the marriage of Charles Farnham and Miss Ida Cowles. This young couple who reside on the James River about eighty miles west of this city, arrived here October 3, to have their marriage ceremony performed. They came in a covered farm wagon, and camped out two nights on the way. On their arrival here, they camped near the city, and the groom came in and sought out Squire Williams (our handsome bachelor Justice of the Peace), and arranged for the ceremony to take place at Carpenter House next day at eleven o'clock a.m., October 4, 1879.

"Several of our citizens attended the wedding. It was the first ceremony performed in Codington County, and the first effort of our handsome Justice at that delicate business, and it is hard to tell which blushed deepest, the bride or the Justice.

"Mr. and Mrs. Farnham are a very intelligent and prepossessing couple and from the pluck and energy manifested by them in their first start in life, we may be sure they will make their mark in the future history of the James River Country."

(Item copied from "Dakota News," Watertown, South Dakota. October 13, 1879.)

To: The County Clerk of Codington County. "This certifies that on the 4th day of October, 1879, at the Carpenter House in Watertown, Codington Co., Dakota Territory, according to law and by authority I duly joined in marriage Charles Farnham and Ida Cowles, aged respectively 27 and 18, both of Foster City, Spink County, Dakota Territory.

"Given under my hand this 9th day of November, 1879. George R. Williams, Justice of the Peace."

(Copy of hand written certificate now in Clerk of Courts' office in Codington County, South Dakota.)

Charles Weldon Farnham and Ida Luella Cowles were married October 4, 1879, at Watertown, Dakota Territory, and recorded as the first couple to be married in that frontier town.

Charles Weldon was the son of John Farnham (who spelled his name Farnam), and was born July 11, 1852, at Ripon, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. His mother was Lucy (Warren) Farnam, born May 31, 1817, and was probably a native of New York.

Mr. John Farnam, father of Charles Weldon, was born in New York, July 11, 1813, his father being Archelaus Farnam, who was given a grant of land in Canada some time prior to the French and Indian war, and later moved to New York.

Ida Luella Cowles was the daughter of Ralph and Susan Ann (Chase) Cowles, and was born May 6, 1862, at Baraboo, Wisconsin. She died at the farm home in Faulk County, South Dakota, on July 14, 1901. Charles W. Farnham died January 3, 1916, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. P. E. Niles near Mauston, Wisconsin.

The first dwellings of Charles and Ida Farnham were a "dugout" home in the high bank of the James River in Rondell Township (southern Brown County) where Emmet and George were born, and a "sod shanty" (northern Spink County) where John was born.

After suffering three crop failures in succession, two by drought, and the last by grasshopper invasion, they moved to Winona County, Minnesota, where the other children were born.

Of the many pioneer experiences in this frontier land, one is quite vividly remembered, and has to do with a trip to Watertown and back to Rondell Township in the middle of a very severe winter. There was no real shortage of food, but an entire lack of white flour, and the craving for it was so great that "Charley" Farnham, who was six feet, three inches tall, and weighed one hundred ninety pounds), and two equally burly young neighbors, decided to make a trip to the nearest source of supply, Watertown. Since there were no passable roads for the slow-moving ox-teams at that time of the year, they made the trip on foot, drawing a hand sled. They traveled in single file, through the snow, one "breaking trail", the second drawing the sled, and the third "resting" as he trudged along in the rear. They rotated at regular intervals, the trail breaker dropping to the rear as the others moved up one position. The distance was somewhat more than eighty miles, and they took three days each way, stopping over night at settlers' cabins. They returned with a large sack of flour and some incidentals on the sled, and reported no discomfort on the trip, other than weariness. It was not considered such an accomplishment at that time, neither particularly hazardous or venturesome, although the territory was still populated mostly by Indians.

Drifting Goose, the famous Indian Chief who resided in Spink County, ate many meals with the Farnhams.

Since the railroads had not yet arrived in the county, mail was carried up and down the James River in relays, by buckboard.

The Farnhams had eight children: Emmet, Hattie, George W., John R., Harry L., Mrs. Emma Hollenback, Mrs. Bertha Bottke, and Mrs. Olive Niles. Mrs. Farnham and two of the children, Emmet and Hattie, preceded Mr. Farnham in death.

Mr. Farnham was one of the early pioneers of Rondell Township, and proved up on a tract of land now known as the Fishback farm. He was a man well and favorably known throughout the county, among those of pioneer days, since he was a man of Christian character and for many years a devoted member of the church.

Burial was made in Rondell Cemetery.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN FEHLMAN

John Fehlman was born November 10, 1866, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Fehlman who came to Spink County, Dakota Territory, in April, 1882 from Illinois.

Matilda Valder was born March 14, 1877 in Dane County, Wisconsin, and came to Frankfort with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Valder, in July, 1887. She and John Fehlman were married September 2, 1896, and ten children were born to them. Mr. Fehlman died June 10, 1940.

MR. AND MRS. MATHIAS FEHLMAN

Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Fehlman and family came to Dakota Territory in April, 1882. They homesteaded on a farm one and one-half mile west and one mile south of Frankfort.

Mathias Fehlman was born July 20, 1835 in Alsace Lorraine, Germany, and came to America when a young man. His wife, Katherine Havert Fehlman, was born in Pennsylvania of German descent, on November 5, 1833. They were married October 18, 1855. Seven children, four sons and three daughters, were born to them.

Mrs. Fehlman died June, 1889, and Mr. Fahlman in January, 1922.

THE FRIDLEY FAMILY

Three Fridley brothers came from McLean County, Illinois, and located in the southeast part of Tetonka Township.

Henry B. Fridley and wife, sons Chas. D. and Frank, and daughter Minnie, came to Dakota Territory in 1882. Also Ralph Hollenbeck, who married Minnie Fridley, in 1889.

In March, 1892, all the family except Charles D. moved to Iowa. Charles D. stayed in the home place. He was the last of the Fridley pioneers who filed on a claim in Dakota. His daughter, Mrs. C. W. Sandquist, and husband, and son, Donald, live on the old home place.

Jesse, wife Mary and son Leonard, came to Dakota in 1884, and located on the southeast quarter of Section 25. In 1889 they moved the buildings to the North half of Section 31, in Benton Township. Jesse died in 1897, and Mary in 1903. Leonard lived on the home place most of the time until 1941, when he moved to Beadle County and in 1949 to Huron.

James K. Fridley came to Dakota Territory in 1882. His wife died in July, 1883. In October, 1884, he married Rebecca Louise Danner, a daughter of a Benton Township pioneer, and lived on the Southwest Quarter of Section 30, in Benton Township until they moved to Brookings in 1906, where he died in 1922. He was a Spink County commissioner, in the 1890's. They had three sons, and a daughter, born on the farm. Ray, a retired Army Colonel, lives in Little Rock, Arkansas, Harry, Dean of the Geology Department, University of West Virginia, lives at Morgantown, Bessie, married to Fred D. Fromme, who was with the U. S. Dept. of

Agriculture, Washington, D. C. They all graduated from South Dakota State College, and Harry from Cornell University, New York.

EDWIN T. FRYER

Edwin T. Fryer came with his parents to Dakota Territory in 1880. On January 7, 1886, he was married to Cynthia Whiting of McHenry, Illinois. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Doland, Dakota Territory, where they lived on a homestead, in Harrison Township, south of Doland. He operated this grain and stock farm for thirty-four years.

After selling the farm he moved to Florida, but returned many times. He died at the age of 77 years at Ocala, Florida. Mrs. Fryer continued to visit Doland after her husband's death. She died at Crystal Lake, Illinois, on July 31, 1947, at the age of 86 years. They had four daughters who are still living, Mrs. Mabel Van Tassel, of Selma, Alabama; Mrs. Hazel Colby of Crystal Lake, Illinois; Mrs. Lois Seaman, of Doland, South Dakota; and Mrs. Bula Dixon of Marietta, Minnesota.

NOYES B. GALLUP AND DELIA J. GEER GALLUP

Among the well-known early Spink County Pioneers were Noyes B. Gallup and his wife, Delia J. Geer Gallup.

A picture and biographical article of Mr. Gallup are found in "Memorial and Biographical Record, Including Biographical Sketches of Hundreds of Prominent Old Settlers of Central South Dakota" published by Geo. A. Ogle & Co., Chicago, 1899, pages 570-573. It states:

"Only those lives are worthy of record that have been potential factors in the public progress in promoting the general welfare or advancing the educational or moral interest of the country. Mr. Gallup was ever faithful to his duties of citizenship, and by the successful conduct of his business interests, not only promoted his individual success, but also advanced the general prosperity.

"He was born January 12, 1831, in Voluntown, New London County, Connecticut, formerly Windham County, and was the seventh in a family of eleven children, whose father was a farmer in Voluntown, where he died in 1852. During his minority our subject assisted in the operation of the home farm, and at the age of twenty-one took charge of the place, which he successfully carried on for two years. He then canvassed for books in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri, and in 1856, in company with fourteen other young men, started for the west to grow up with the country. They located in Dodge County, Minnesota, near Wasioja, meaning "crazy water", and Mr. Gallup took up a quarter section of land four miles from the village, with a land warrant, for which he paid one hundred fifty dollars.

"On the 14th of September, 1857, he was united in marriage in Faribault, Rice County, Minnesota, with Miss Delia J. Geer, of Griswold, New London County, Connecticut, a young lady who had gone to Minnesota with a family of early settlers, and started in the dressmaking business there. Seven children were born of this union, namely: Dollie Geer, now the wife of Clarence E. Quimby, who lives near the old homestead in Jefferson township, Spink County, South Dakota; Jasper Elijah, who also lives near the home farm; Thomas Shipman, a resident of Athol township, Spink County; Robert Geer, who lives near the home farm; Martha Ellen and Mary Elmira, both at home; and Isaac Gardner, who died at the age of three years, four months and five days.

"Mr. and Mrs. Gallup began their domestic life upon his farm in Minnesota, where they were living at the time of the terrible Indian massacre in 1862, being only sixty miles from the center of trouble, and their home was headquarters for many of the fleeing white settlers. At that place, Mr. Gallup conducted the postoffice and continued to make his home for ten years, during which time he saw the country become quite thickly settled and the railroads built through the county. There he acquired four hundred acres of fine farming land, but again had an attack of the "Western fever" and in the spring of 1881 came to Spink County, South Dakota, where he homesteaded the Northeast Quarter of Section 2, Jefferson Township, and also took up a tree claim. In 1884, he moved his family to the land he had secured in this state."

Lumber for their large New-England type house which still stands at "Gallup" was hauled from Watertown, a distance of 70 miles.

The six children either accompanied their parents to Dakota or soon followed. Two of them, Dollie (Mrs. C. E. Quimby) and Jasper were old enough to take homesteads adjoining that of their father. The others, Thomas, Robert, Martha (Mrs. Arthur W. Young), and Mary, (Mrs. Lee Titus) settled on farms nearby. The children, therefore, also are first generation pioneers.

The article quoted above continues:

"He prospered in his new home and the family now owns five quarter sections of land unencumbered by debt. The entire acreage is planted to grain with the exception of about forty-five acres of pasture land. They keep a flock of about seven or eight hundred sheep, twenty-five head of cattle and twenty horses, and as stock raisers have also been quite successful. In 1890 a six-inch artesian well, eight hundred and seventy-four feet deep, was bored upon the place, which had a strong flow, the column of water rising to from fourteen to sixteen feet above the casing, but the casing was not put down in a correct manner, and after about four months quicksand closed in and stopped the flow.

"The Gallups, members of the Congregational Church in New England, were among the founders of the Congregational Church in Ashton. Literary and musical groups were welcomed at the Gallup home.

"Mr. Gallup died suddenly from diabetes, January 4, 1899. He was a man of the highest respectability, and those who were most intimately associated with him speak in unqualified terms of his sterling integrity, his honor in business and his fidelity to all the duties of public and private life.

" 'The Yankton Student' of the January, 1899; states: "Our attention has been called to the death of Mr. N. B. Gallup of Ashton, S. D. Mr. Gallup was well-known to the College as one of its best friends, having at times generously given it financial help. His daughters, Misses Mary and Martha, were at one time numbered among our students. As an indication of the character of the deceased we quote a few words from a friend: 'I have known Mr. Gallup about thirty years and have found him a just, generous kind-hearted Christian. We are always sorry when such good men go, but if we could all be as ready as he and could go as quietly it would be well for us'. The STUDENT wishes to express to the bereaved family the sympathy of Yankton College!"

Mrs. Gallup continued living on the homestead, enjoying the good will, respect, and esteem of the community. She died on February 29, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Gallup, as well as their three sons and three daughters, are buried in the Ashton Cemetery.

Among the descendants living in South Dakota at present (February, 1961) are Winifred, daughter of Mrs. Dollie Quimby, Mrs. Carl Christol, Vermillion, and one of her four sons, Eugene W. Christol, Rapid City; Edith, daughter of Robert, Mrs. Stanley Law, and her three sons and daughter, Clear Lake; Arthur, son of Jasper, Redfield; Clayton Gallup, son of Roy and grandson of Thomas, and two daughters, Redfield; Richard and Thomas, sons of Claire and grandsons of Robert, Redfield.

DENNIS GALVIN AND WILL GALVIN

In the spring of 1880, two brothers born in County Kerry, Ireland, left Preston, Minnesota enroute to Dakota Territory, with a team and wagon, to make their home. They filed on land two miles north of Athol that summer, building a sod house and barn, and breaking land and putting up hay. In the fall they returned to Minnesota and shipped a carload of stock, feed, and furniture to Watertown, the nearest railroad point, and drove the rest of the way to Athol with teams.

Dennis Galvin brought his wife, Cecelie, with him, but Will, who was not married, made his home with his brother. In the winter of the deep snow, 1880-81, they walked to Old Ashton for provisions and hauled them home on a hand sled.

In the year 1885, Will married Hannah O'Connor, and they stayed on the claim, since Dennis had built another home nearby. In 1892, Dennis sold out and returned to Minnesota. Will died in 1913 leaving Mrs. Galvin and six of their eight children to carry on the farming operations. The two older children had established homes of their own. Leo, the youngest, was five years old.

Mrs. Galvin died in 1961, just a few days before her 97th birthday. The children, Neal, Bill, Ed, Ray, Mary (Mrs. Earl Weideman), Clair and Leo, still live near Athol. Elizabeth (Mrs. Roa Groft) lives in Frankfort, South Dakota. Bill and Ray live on the home place. Neal and Elizabeth were born in Territorial Days.

THE GRAVES FAMILY

In March of 1882 Daniel P. Graves and wife, Leanora, left Cook County, Illinois, and journeyed to Dakota Territory to join the ever growing band of pioneers. They were accompanied by their three sons, Edwin N., Charles F., and Jake. The Graves and Lewis families traveled together in a boxcar, their beds set up in one end of the car, and the livestock bedded down in the other end.

The previous fall C. F. Graves, and Mr. Lewis, a neighbor, had come to Ashton and decided where to stake their claims. When the family arrived, they set up housekeeping in a small dwelling that is now part of the McCrossen home.

The summer was spent hauling lumber and building claim shanties. By fall, Daniel P. Graves, wife and son Jake were located on what is now the Lester Spear farm. E. N. Graves' claim shanty was located across the road from the present Clifton Cemetery, and C. F. Graves' land joined it on the west. Later, the claim shanty of E. N. Graves was moved to Ashton and is part of the Charles Leinen house, while that of C. F. Graves became the kitchen of the Lester Spear house.

One of the problems was getting water. The water on their land was not suitable for human use. It was necessary to haul water from a shallow well in Dry Run and store it in barrels.

Another problem was the crossing of the James River when it flooded. Many times it was necessary to row a boat across from the Zoodsma farm to the railroad tracks.

During the blizzard of January 12, 1888 Daniel Graves and Mrs. C. F. Graves were in Ashton, ready to start home. It had been a beautiful morning, but as Mr. Graves stepped out of the livery stable with his team, the storm struck. They stayed with friends until the following day, but their family had no way of knowing they were safe.

E. N. Graves was teaching the school on Dry Run. Only a few pupils were present that morning, and they all reached home safely ahead of the storm. Then E. N. and C. F. Graves finally made their way to the Daniel Graves home.

A short distance west of the Graves' claims the John Roberts family settled. Both C. F. and E. N. Graves married sisters, Esther and Annie Roberts.

Following the death of Jake Graves, Daniel and his wife moved to Ashton, where they resided until their deaths.

E. N. Graves served as county commissioner from 1890 to 1892, and as county auditor from 1897 to 1901. That year he became Assistant Secretary of State under O. C. Berg. Because of illness, Mr. Berg was absent from Pierre a great deal of the time so it was E. N.'s responsibility to carry on many duties of the Secretary of State, such as calling to order the meetings of the House of Representatives. He returned to Ashton in 1904.

Shortly before Daniel Graves moved to Ashton, C. F. Graves moved to their farm. In the fall of 1906 he moved to Ashton and the following spring to Redfield where he served as County Treasurer for two years. He then returned to Ashton and served as postmaster. From 1912 to 1920, he once again lived on his farm. He again moved to Ashton and served as County Commissioner. He was Chairman of the Board when the present courthouse was built.

Both brothers were active in starting and organizing the Farmers Elevator of Ashton, the Ashton Lumber Company, and the Ashton State Bank. They were influential in organizing the Masonic Lodge in Ashton, both served as school officers, township officers, councilmen and mayor of Ashton.

E. N. Graves died in 1941, and C. F. Graves in 1948.

ALEXANDER GREENMAN

Alexander Greenman was born in Fulton County, New York, on March 31, 1842, the seventh of a family of eight children born to James and Mary (White) Greenman. He attended school in his hometown of Northampton and then became head clerk in a clothing store at Amsterdam, New York at sixteen, and later at Broadalvin, New York. Returning to his home town in 1858, he clerked in a general merchandise store; later succeeded to the proprietorship. After the war he was in business at Boston Springs, and later went to Wisconsin where he founded the town of Windsor. He and his brother formed a partnership, and managed the first store in the village.

In 1880, his brother, returning from a trip to Dakota, was enthusiastic about the newly settled country, and in 1882 they moved their stock of merchandise to Redfield, and were the first merchants there. The first partnership was formed with Mr. Bagge and the business was located on the corner of Humboldt Avenue, and Holmes. After moving to several other locations, they established the business in the Anderson Block in 1892, having a very complete stock which was destroyed by fire in 1897. They re-established their store on Franklin Avenue, and later on Humboldt Street, after a second fire. Mr. Greenman was also the owner of an extensive stock farm comprising 1120 acres located about two miles south of Redfield.

He married Miss Charlotte Plackett, in 1875. She was a daughter of William and Ann (Davis) Plackett, both of English birth. Their six children included: William L., Walter E., Burton V., Robert F., Leonard R., and Richard L.

Mr. Greenman was a Mason, a Republican, and favored Prohibition and Equal Suffrage.

(From Compendium of Biography of Central South Dakota.)

MR. AND MRS. JACOB HARDIE

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Hardie came to the United States from Zurich, Switzerland, in 1884, settling in Pullman, Michigan, where Lena and Clara were born. After two and one-half years they moved to Crandon in Dakota Territory where their friends, the Henry Buchholzs lived. They then moved to Seneca where they lived for five years. Freda, Elbert, John and Will were born here.

At one time a prairie fire almost took the lives of Mrs. Hardie and the children. Seeing the approaching fire, she wet the framework of the shanty with water from the well, then herded the children and cows into the sod shanty, thus saving their lives. Mr. Hardie, who had gone to Aberdeen in search of work, hurried home barefooted, expecting to find his family gone.

In 1892 the family located ten miles west of Redfield, where they lived for fifty years. They celebrated their sixty-fourth wedding anniversary in August, 1944.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardie were the parents of sixteen children, eleven boys and five girls. The children living are: Clara Schmidt, Freda Becker, William, Albert, Sam, Ernest, Edwin, Lillian Schwichtenberg, and Helen

Mommer. Those who are deceased are: John, George, Elmer, Lawrence, Bernard and Walter.

Mr. Hardie served on the school board from 1908 to 1944, and was the township clerk for many years. The first teachers were Nola Wood, in 1883 and C. P. Marlen in 1885.

Mr. Hardie died July 15, 1945.

REVEREND GEORGE HARDING.

George Harding was born March 12, 1832 in Wiltshire, England. He had no knowledge of his parents, but lived with his grandmother in her small house on the large estate of the family for whom she worked. A goat supplied their milk, and a small garden their vegetables. Each day the grandmother sent the boy to the street corner to get one of the loaves of black bread doled out to the poor.

When he was eight years of age, he had no schooling, but started to work for the gardener of the estate.

At the age of eighteen, he met and married Jane Britton, a governess on the estate. In their spare time, she taught him to read and write. He then commenced to preach, first in Wiltshire, then in Bristol, Newport, Bath, Sopworth, and Salsburg. Five children were born to them in England.

Reverend Harding moved his family to America in 1866, settling in Pennsylvania, then moving to Sumner, Iowa. His youngest son, John William was born there. When the boy was four years old, he rode with his father on the big black mare to make calls on his parishioners.

In 1881 the family came to Dakota Territory in an immigrant car which stopped at Mitchell. The family drove their four horses and led their two cows until they came to the beautiful plot of land in Garfield Township where they decided to locate.

Since Reverend Harding was a missionary preacher, the Elkhorn and Dakota conference organized on October 10, 1887, in Seeley Schoolhouse, a Tulare Mission which consisted of a class of fifty-six members. As he was the Presiding Elder he spent much of his time traveling with a team and buggy to visit the members.

Hard times were the result of poor crops in 1893. There were few gardens and no grain for the horses. Many became discouraged and returned to their homes in the East. Reverend Harding worried over his congregation and called a special prayer meeting. He then wrote to his former congregation in Sumner, Iowa, for help. They responded immediately and sent a car loaded with wheat, potatoes, beans, dried fruit, corn, and used clothing. The railroad company supplied the car without charge. After the car was unloaded, Reverend Harding called another prayer meeting and gave thanks for the commodities sent to them.

Later, Reverend Harding accepted an appointment in Narka, Kansas. He preached there until his death on September 16, 1912.

MR. AND MRS. J. P. HARLOW

James P. Harlow was the son of James and Mary Harlow. His parents had left their native home in the County of Roscommon, Ireland to make their home in New York state where Mr. Harlow helped in the building of the Erie Canal. After the completion of the Canal, he moved to Wisconsin where he homesteaded near the town of Chilton, and lived there for the remainder of his life.

James Harlow, Jr., was born in Chilton May 15, 1858. When he was four years old, the mother died, leaving him, a younger brother and six other children to be reared by the father. With the help of the older daughters, Mr. Harlow accomplished this. Katherine, the oldest daughter, deciding that her brother James needed a middle name, to distinguish him from his father, named him James Philip Harlow.

Unlike his older brother, Michael, who graduated from Oshkosh Normal School in Wisconsin, and taught school before he became a real estate dealer in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, James disliked school and quit his studies in order to help his father on the farm. Here he was able to satisfy his love of Nature, especially of trees. The thorn apple tree that he planted as a child still grows in the yard of his boyhood home, and the grove of trees he planted from seed on his homestead nine miles northeast of Frankfort now temper the hot winds of summer and the cold of winter. Surrounding his Redfield home are the elms and the blue spruce that he nurtured through the dust and the dry years of the Thirties.

In 1879, James, accompanied by his friend, Mr. Grady, came to Dakota Territory to join his brother Michael who had homesteaded ten miles northeast of Frankfort a few months previously. The two men arrived by train at Watertown, and then walked to Hastings postoffice five and one half miles west of Doland. Then for a few weeks the two drove the stagecoach for Fred Rogers from Belcher's Ford in Fisher's Grove, to Watertown, after they had taken their homesteads. Mr. Harlow also filed on a tree claim and a pre-emption, about nine miles northeast of Frankfort.

The major part of the next two years, Mr. Harlow worked for the bridge crew of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, then building from Winona to Watertown. In 1881 he returned to his homestead and for a short time lived in a sod house with his brother Michael and then roomed with the Deacon Joy family, who had come from Vermont and had taken a claim a half mile west of his homestead. Each morning Mr. Harlow went to his homestead to break the land with his oxen and walking plow. Most impressive to him, in this new land, were the fields of wild roses and the countless meadow larks.

Nellie Steele Flynn, who later became Mrs. J. P. Harlow, was born March 25, 1866 in Marshall, Michigan. She was the possessor of a strong, sunny, optimistic personality and was a talented singer. After attending Hillsdale and Albion Colleges in Michigan, at the age of nineteen years, in 1885, she came with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Flynn to Dakota Territory where they homesteaded a mile west of J. P. Harlow's farm. For the next five years she taught rural schools in that vicinity, among these being the Steffes school, the Anderson school, and the Schaffer school. It was in the latter school that Miss Flynn stayed all night with her pupils during the blizzard of January 12, 1888.

After a year, her parents returned to Michigan, but she and her brother Charles remained in Dakota Territory, the latter becoming the first station agent in Frankfort. Later, he moved to Wessington, and then to

Miller, where he managed the Vanderbilt Hotel until his death.

On September 23, 1890, in Kranzburg, South Dakota, Miss Flynn and J. P. Harlow were married, and made their home on his homestead. Eight children were born to them; one, a daughter died in infancy. In 1911 they moved to Redfield, where they lived until their deaths.

J. P. Harlow lived in Spink County for almost seventy continuous years, and was known as one of its most loyal boosters.

It was a strange coincidence that Mrs. Harlow died September 23, 1919, on the 29th Anniversary of her wedding, and Mr. Harlow died September 23, 1949, on his 59th wedding Anniversary.

JASON FRANKLIN HASKELL.

Jason Franklin Haskell was born in Gorland, Maine in 1844. For almost four years he served in the Civil War. In 1868 he moved to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin and in 1869 he married Zedora Persons who was born in Warren, Vermont, in 1851. At the age of seven she moved with her parents to Fort Atkinson and then to Sturgeon Bay.

In 1869 Jason and Zedora Haskell located in Iowa and made their home in Red Oak for thirteen years. Four sons and two daughters were born to them there: George, Hattie, Charles, Herbert, Herman and Etta.

In 1883 after the death of Herbert, the family decided to emigrate to Dakota Territory. They loaded two railroad cars with a few horses, cattle, feed and household goods, and shipped them to Mellette, South Dakota. Here they unloaded their possessions, drove across the county, forded the James River and Mud Creek to reach their homestead in Beotia Township.

During the next few years, three more children were born to this family: Ella in 1866, now Mrs. Ella Richardson of Pomona, California; Clifford in 1887, and Clair in 1894. Clair still lives in Conde and owns land in Beotia Township.

K. L. HASSELL.

Kenrick L. Hassell was born in Wisconsin May 29, 1849, the fourth of a family of seven children, born to Reverend Richard and Ann Newson Hassell. Both parents were English by birth, and sailed from Leeds to settle in Illinois and later in Seattle, Washington.

In 1875 Mr. Hassell married Helen Terhufen, a native of Wisconsin, and of German extraction. Four children were born to this couple: Earl, Mabel, Lester, and one who died in infancy.

The family were members of the Congregational Church which was organized at Myers ranch in 1881 by Reverend Canney, with five charter members. Mr. Hassell was a member of the Ancient Order of the United Workmen, and a Populist.

On May 1, 1880, Mr. Hassell came to Spink County and filed on a pre-emption claim, three and one-half miles from Redfield, then known as Myers' Junction. Here he erected a building, half sod, and half lumber. This was comfortable except for the leaky roof which in rainy weather necessitated sleeping under the table.

Soon after Hassell's arrival, Drifting Goose, in defiance of the white settlers, had a red cloth placed under the Council Stone which was three miles distant from Redfield on the James River. Hostile demonstrations continued until Drifting Goose was sent to Washington, the reservation was purchased from him, and the Indians moved beyond the Missouri.

In the fall of 1880, Mr. Hassell was placed in charge of the Myers Ranch. He stored provisions for the winter, but the weather was so severe that neighbors came to borrow from him.

A settlement near the ranch consisted of twenty-seven people. Only one family had on old-fashioned coffee grinder. This was kept busy grinding wheat into flour. Later Mr. Hassell moved to Redfield, and was night watchman and deputy sheriff of the County until his death in 1902.

Mrs. Hassell had a boarding house on Main Street, and lived in a small house, later known as the Otto Shade home. She died in the early Nineteen Thirties.

BIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES RANSOM HAVEN.

1843–1913

On Thanksgiving day, 1880, there was a reunion of the children of John Wilder Haven and his wife, Melinda Button. It was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he made his home with his two younger children. Henry Wilder, Harris, Harriet Lorean Smith, and Charles Ransom, all were born in Massachusetts except Charles who was born in Vermont. When he was three years old, the family moved west to Kenosha, Wisconsin, where the children attended school. In 1858 they moved still farther west to St. Anthony, later called E. Minneapolis, on the Mississippi River.

When the Civil War broke out, Charley answered the three month's call and went to fight the Indians in northern Minnesota under General Sibley. Then he joined Company A, 9th Regiment of Minnesota Infantry Volunteers. He was plagued with illness and disease from which he was never again entirely free, so was usually near base hospitals on land or river, on orderly duty when able. He was in Cincinnati where the surrender of General Lee and the end of the war was being celebrated gaily, when the news of Lincoln's assassination became known, and wild rejoicing abruptly became deep mourning. He was discharged in June, 1865 and returned to Minneapolis later in the summer to learn that his mother had died.

For the next ten years he and his father found various jobs of unskilled labor about the booming young city, much of it dray or express work, and for a long time he was an active member of the city's volunteer fire department. He also worked in logging camps in the North Woods.

Meantime, Henry had married and lived in Chicago, where he worked at the printing trade. Harris had gone to Madison, Wisconsin and engaged in the hardware and implement business. Lorean was widowed and made a home for her father and bachelor brother who helped her with her two children.

In 1876, Charley and Mary ("Maren") Amundson were married. She was born in 1851 near Christiania, now Oslo, Norway and came to Minneapolis in 1872 with a brother to join a brother who came three years earlier. She very soon found employment (they had employment agencies then too) in a fine Christian American home, a "private boarding house" where she was treated like one of the family, and learned the hard way to speak English. And I didn't learn the Norwegian. My father was more than willing but she feared I would not speak good English. She prepared the holiday dinner and I remember my uncles and cousins very well. We were the babies of the group, my brother and I. Henry's family came from St. Paul, and Harris brought the "western fever" with him, and my father became interested. My mother? No, she had had enough of farm life in Norway, also a taste of city life before embarking. But the other families thought it was just the life for Charley and Mary and Father. So Harris came in early 1881 and filed claim on the land where George Haven lives, and Charley came out in September, 1881, and filed his "Declaratory" on the quarter south. Then he and his father got some equipment, a cow, a steer, and a yoke of young oxen, shipped a car load with household goods, ready-cut lumber for a house, and a barrel of house plants—only two survived the March weather in 1882.

They left Minneapolis March 5th, and we followed on April 5th, an all night trip. The Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad had been extended south from Aberdeen where we had to change trains. A car was derailed and we were delayed until evening. Our new home was about seven miles southeast of Mellette, and my father came to meet us in the morning, so Uncle Harris came for us in the evening. The house had been constructed and we were glad to get to bed. My mother was very ill and stayed in bed the first two weeks. My brother and I were exposed to the measles enroute and he became very ill. Home remedies did not reduce the fever and infection, and he died May 5th, perhaps the first death in the township of Tetonka.

I must pause to pay tribute to the kindness of the neighbors in our tragedy, and to express gratitude for the friendships formed then that have lasted through the years. But no one can do much to assuage grief under such circumstances.

Spring had come and there was work to do, prairie to break, seed to plant, with a walking plow, spade, and bag for planting corn, then a hand planter borrowed perhaps. There were three hungry men to feed, even a new unfinished house needed cleaning, with the clutter of men batching, the moving in, and the packing crates, and illness, and with no conveniences of any kind, and hard water. But it is well that a tired body brings rest to a grieving mind. I wonder now if we gave my father's grief as much consideration as we should have done. I was too young to understand, but know my mother grieved for years.

Harvest time came. My grandfather thought he could "cradle" Harris' wheat crop, a very good crop, on ground that had been broken the year before. My mother knew how to bind and we started out, I with a small pail of water to refresh the harvesters. First, we found Grandpa's coat, then his blue hickory shirt, and soon, here he was exhausted, less than half way across the field. He had to admit it was more than he could do. After all, he was past the age of seventy-five years.

W. C. Kiser had one of the first John Deering twine binders and did custom cutting, so was called in. Neighbors helped one another exchanging work. I do not remember the threshing that year, but believe it was a small horse power machine which came in after the grain was shocked, stacked and allowed to go through the sweat. It took a crew of twelve men to run a machine ten to twelve hours a day and they would thresh about 600 bushels, sacked. The farmer fed them if they were transient, dinners usually.

Then came the straw fed steam thresher, then coal burners and cook-cars.

One of our main crops that first year was pumpkins. They were good for pies, and good cattle feed too.

Since there was little to do that first winter, Charley went back to Minneapolis to work in the woods again, but they had unemployment then too, and he was glad to come back to the farm and its hard work. However he didn't forget his little girl. For years he carried her first letter and I still have the black walnut cradle he sent for my doll at Christmas time.

Pioneers were neighborly and made their own social life with utter disregard of age, and a party meant the whole family was invited. This helped to break the monotony of daily living.

Spring came again in all its beauty and hopes revived. Grandfather took his oxteam and a plow, a tent and bedding, and food, and went to break for Packhams, southeast of Baldwins, but had bad luck again. A fall resulted in some broken ribs and he came home with another dream to forget.

Our first sizeable purchase was a pair of big red oxen, weighing about 3400 pounds.

The late 1880s were pretty lean years. I recall that one winter we had just one hundred bushels of No. 3 wheat, worth 35c a bushel, to see us from one crop to another, with a meager supplement of eggs put down in oats in the summer, and the cream from three cows which my mother churned (dasher type) and traded for groceries.

A storm to be remembered was a fifteen minute hailstorm in August, 1893, the year of the "panic". About half of our barley crop had been cut. I was at a neighbor, Miss Helen Flint, about two miles north; when I returned I could not tell where the field had been cut, and where the storm had cut it. As soon as it was dry enough, I went over it with the hay rake and saved half a crop. Barley straw is brittle. The poorest of the wheat crop had been cut, but a beautiful part of forty acres was not quite ripe. The binder or header couldn't get it, since it was down. Hence, it was a total loss.

My father missed the farm. He kept a horse as long as he lived. He went back once or twice a year to see how things looked. The memory of his War days were precious to him. He joined the Congregational Church in Huron, and was a member of the G.A.R.

HARRIS HAVEN.

Harris Haven, who came to Dakota Territory from Wisconsin in 1881, homesteaded in Tetonka Township, on the Southeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 119, Range 63. Mrs. Haven arrived from Wisconsin a short time later.

Two sons George and Herman were born to them. The former still lives on the old homestead and Herman lives on his grandfather's pre-emption, the Southwest Quarter of Section 6, Township 119, Range 62.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris Haven spent the remainder of their lives on this homestead.

JOHN D. HERMAN.

Biography of a Pioneer Doctor.

John D. Herman, one of the pioneer physicians of Dakota Territory, was born in Glenville, Minnesota February 27, 1859, the oldest son of Philip and Victoria Herman.

He took his medical training at a college in Cincinnati, Ohio, attending that school until the year he was to graduate. According to the laws of that day, a Doctor was required to practice a year before he could qualify for his last year at the medical school. Herman decided to take this practice in Dakota Territory.

He and his sister Priscilla left Minnesota, came to Dakota and settled in the little town of Rose, eight miles west of Conde. Here he practiced for a year, returning to Cincinnati to finish his medical course. After his graduation he returned to Rose and practiced medicine and later moved to Conde.

In 1888 he married Annie May Cowan who was also a pioneer, having come with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Cowan in 1882 to settle in a sod house five miles north of Crandall.

Dr. Herman did much to build and promote the growth of Conde. His name will always be connected with the town for, at one time, he owned much of the eastern half of the town. In what is now known as the Robertson Office, he established the first drug store of Conde, and also had an artesian well dug that provided the water for Conde for many years. However, his chief work was that of the pioneer doctor. He traveled at a slow rate with his horse and buggy, yet no call was too far or no weather too stormy for him to answer a sick call. No doctor gave more freely of himself or of his skill than did this man, Dr. John D. Herman, of Conde.

THE HILKEMEIER FAMILY.

Henry W. Hilkemeier (born in 1822) and his wife, Conradine, (born in 1829) parents of Henry, Fred, Gustav, Carl, and Herman Hilkemeier and a daughter Mary now Mrs. Ernest Gellhaus, Sr., came to Dakota Territory in 1884. They had sold their beautiful farm home in Lippe-Detmold, Germany wishing to establish their home in a land where they hoped enforced military training would never become a necessity. Six children had died in infancy and were buried in Germany. The remaining six made their homes in America.

Gustav Hilkemeier and a prospective son-in-law, Ernest Gellhaus, Sr. had come two years earlier to purchase the land which was to be the new home. They chose a site near Crandon, South Dakota. (The farm is now occupied by the Clarence and Melvin Hilkemeier families. This is the fourth generation of Hilkemeiers to occupy the farm.)

The elder members of the family found living here to be rugged compared with their former life, but the children craved adventure, and were content to start life anew on the windswept prairies of Dakota. Henry, the oldest of the children, (born in 1855), brought his bride with him and they established their home near Frankfort. Gustav (born in 1864) arrived in America in 1882. He married ten years later, and located near Crandon. Fred (born in 1867) accompanied his sister Mary (born in 1861), when she immigrated to America in 1883. Mary was married to Ernest Gellhaus, Sr., soon after her arrival in America and she and her husband established their home on a farm east of Tulare. Fred, who was fifteen years of age at the time, attended school in Crandon. When he married ten years later he lived for a time in Buffalo Township and then built up a place south of Tulare in Garfield Township. Carl, age 13, and Herman, age 10, accompanied their parents as immigrants in 1884. Carl eventually located on a farm near Crandon and Herman lived in Hitchcock until his death in 1904.

The parents, who were not accustomed to the harsh climate of Dakota, died within ten years. They are buried in Tulare Cemetery. Of the family of twelve children, Carl survives and makes his home with his son, Alfred and family, near Redfield, South Dakota. He will be 90 years old in December, 1961.

EBER EGBERT HODGE.

Mr. Hodge was born in Addison Township, Oxford, Michigan, on March 26, 1868. The old birthplace still stands and has been kept up by friends.

After his mother died, he made his home with his sister. At the age of fifteen years, he came to Turton where his father, Leonard Hodge, (a Civil War veteran), was homesteading in Clifton Township.

There he became interested in playing ball. Training for League Ball, while playing with Mellette, he was hired as a pitcher by Philadelphia Big League. He did a great deal of traveling with them. When the pitcher's box was set back ten feet he lost out. He then came back to South Dakota, and spent many years in Ashton vicinity. He was a Methodist.

Mr. Hodge has the distinction of having voted for fourteen Presidents.

He now lives with his niece and her husband on a farm northeast of Ashton.

THE HODGE FAMILY.

Leonard L. Hodge, with his son, Eber, and daughter, Eva, and family were early pioneers of Spink County, Dakota Territory. Leonard L. Hodge was born in New York state and his wife, Matilda Ann Young, was born in Ontario, Canada. He was Scotch-Irish and she was French-Canadian. Mr. Hodge worked for the Clark Mills Timber Company as a saw filer before they moved to Oakland County, Michigan. Their daughter, Eva, was born in Camden, East Ontario, Canada, June 1, 1858; their other children, Laura and Eber, were born in Addison Township, Oakland County, Michigan.

On April 4, 1865, Leonard L. Hodge was enlisted and mustered into service at Pontiac, Michigan, an unassigned recruit of the Third Michigan Infantry. He, together with about 90,000 other men from Michigan, did his part to save the North in the closing days of the Civil War. His wife and family went back to the Youngs in Canada and lived in the big stone house with the white pine floors, until he returned home. The family, reunited at their own home, struggled to make a living. They built a home in Oxford, Michigan, and were very active members in the Methodist Church. Their daughter, Eva, was an alto singer in the choir.

In 1873 the wife and mother died and the full responsibility of the home fell upon the fifteen year old daughter, Eva. Mr. Hodge raised onions which he sold by the car-load as far away as Texas. When his daughters married and the home ties were broken, he decided to join others and go to Dakota Territory. John and Belle Myers and Mr. Gardner and Allen had already secured their places and Leonard Hodge waited arrival of his son Eber before he filed his claim. The immigrant train finally arrived in Mellette. Ashton was then the end of the railroad. All hands proceeded to unload the car and take the machinery, horses and cow to the Myers-Gardner farm which was north of town a short distance. Young Hodge welcomed a good bed and a square meal after bunking with the stock and living on beans for many days. The farm consisted of 640 acres and there they worked hard until his Michigan friends decided to return to their former home.

Leonard L. Hodge took up his home on Dry Run, Clifton Township, on the Northeast Quarter of Section 8, Township 118, Range 62, in Spink County, Dakota Territory. He built his claim shack, barn and granary and extended his greatest efforts to bring the virgin soil into production but, like all the early settlers, he found the road rough, and he finally lost his sight. He was forced to retire and returned to his old home in Michigan. Mr. Hodge would have been lost in the Blizzard of 1888, if his daughter Eva had not pounded on a big dishpan and screamed to direct him to her. In making the trek back from the barn, he lost his way and her plan saved his life, but his daughter could not speak above a whisper for many weeks after that, and her voice was ruined for singing. "Thank God" were her words, when she saw her father come like a huge icicle towards her. Words cannot express such anxiety.

Eber played ball with the Indian Scheffalo, and other Flandreau Indians. He went hunting west of the Missouri River with Scotty Phillips' wife's people, and played ball with some of them while he was on a claim near Gettysburg, and while tribes rested for the night on their trips they were making from one reservation to another, he welcomed and visited with them, mostly by sign. His sister Eva gave them many a loaf of bread when they came into Grandpa Hodge's claim shack uninvited. At first, she was very much frightened, but they gave her Indian trinkets for all she offered them, and she lost her fear by their kindness. When she was a child in Michigan, an old Indian squaw saved her life from blood poisoning by taking moss from the well and making a poultice which she applied to the wound. Hence, she did not have the feeling of vengeance toward the Indians that some people had.

Mr. Leonard Hodge "witched" for many wells for the early settlers. His well provided water for years, and the Indians, on their trips to and from their reservations, stopped to water their ponies there. Nothing remains of the pioneer home except a part of the Tom Haney residence that is the old Hodge claim shack which was moved there many years ago.

If the walls could talk, they could tell many stories of Leonard Hodge and his grandchildren, March, Norton and Earl. The other grandchildren, Ida, Grace, Genevieve, and Carl, were born elsewhere, and missed all the experiences of the pioneers.

ALLISON HOLCOMB.

Allison Holcomb came from Clarkston, Michigan and filed on a homestead one mile north of Rose postoffice, in 1882.

Here he built a sod shanty, and a sod barn for his horse and cow. Neighbors were few and times were hard. Much of his food consisted of wild game he had shot.

In 1885 he had lumber and oak poles sent from Michigan and with this wood he made a granary which was fastened together, with the exception of the roof, with wooden pegs. This building was a landmark until recent years.

Allison Holcomb returned to Michigan in 1885 and married Mary Stott, and they made their home on his claim in Dakota. Seven children were born to them, three of whom died in infancy. His wife died in 1903. In 1918 he married Carrie Stott.

In the early thirties he lost his land to an insurance company. He died in 1934 at the age of 81 years. His daughter, Pearl and her husband bought the land back from the insurance company and lived there until 1958. His second wife had died in 1944.

The land was sold at auction May, 1959, and was purchased by Harold and Arthur McComsey, the two oldest grandsons of Allison Holcomb. They own it today and raise good crops on the land.

HENRY H. HOLCOMB.

Henry H. Holcomb, the son of Polly and Worchester Holcomb, was born at Dover, Wisconsin, on March 23, 1841, the youngest of eight children.

He volunteered for enlistment in the 23rd Regiment of Wisconsin, and was wounded at the attack of Vicksburg, and discharged because of disability.

He married Margaret V. Rowbotham in 1868, and to this union three sons were born, Claire in 1872, Wilford in 1874, and Edward in 1886.

In 1881, Mr. Holcomb filed a Soldiers' declaratory, completing the entry in 1882, and established the family home on the Southeast Quarter of Section 26, Township 119, Range 63.

Because of his army disability, he suffered for a number of years, and died in 1897 with interment in Mellette cemetery.

W. W. HOPKINS FAMILY

One of the early pioneers who came to Dakota Territory was W. W. Hopkins. The father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Hopkins homesteaded on land near what is now Burdette, South Dakota. The original deeds, still in the hands of the family, were signed by President

Benjamin Harrison and Grover Cleveland.

Roy L. Hopkins, the oldest son, first managed the Central House in Redfield, now called the Packard Hotel. In 1897 he established the first telephone system known as the Redfield Telephone Exchange and Rural System. The office was built where the Bell Telephone Company is now located. Later he operated a grocery store, bakery and ice-cream store.

He served as alderman in Redfield. He was the father of the late Clarence G. Hopkins, who was born in the Territory.

The other sons of W. W. Hopkins, George and Al, were active in business. George owned a china shop known as Hopkins Bazaar, and later a bakery. Al had a grocery store. Roy and George built the building where the present bakery and Anthony Store are located.

The daughter, Mrs. Charles Humeston, and her husband came to Dakota Territory in 1883. Elmer R. Hunston, their son, was born in the Territory, and still lives in Redfield.

THE HOUSEMAN FAMILY

The name Houseman originated from a John Houseman, who in 1379 lived in Yorkshire, England. Several hundred years later in the state of Virginia there was a Jeremiah Houseman who fought with the South in the Civil War. During this war, his wife died after the birth of their son, Louis. After the war was over, he married Patience Bedsaul whose family had lived in Virginia for many years. Her grandmother and Abraham Lincoln's mother were sisters.

Jerry and Patience Houseman were the parents of nine children, all born near Galox, Virginia. The entire Houseman family, the George Meltons and brothers-in-law M. Perry and Henry Carrico arrived at Huron, Dakota Territory, in 1884. The Carricos settled in Crandon, a new and promising town, and the others went to Athol where Jerry Houseman and the oldest son, Charles, worked on the section. The other children went to school and did any available work as money was very scarce.

After a few years, the family started farming north of Ashton, one-half mile south of the Dr. Olton place. Their next home was on the Dick Siderius farm on the James River. In 1892, they moved again to a farm five miles east of Redfield. There the oldest son Charles married Ida Melton, a girl who had come from Virginia with her parents. He and Ida lived all their lives in and around Brentford.

In the next ten years, all of the nine children, five boys and four girls, of Jerry and Patience Houseman were married. Next to Charles were the twins, Laura and Alice, both married and had families. Alice is now buried at Tacoma, Washington and Laura at Brownsville, Texas. Lucy, or Lucinda married Henry Baldwin. He died in 1893. Her second husband was Will Bosford, whose people lived at Crandon and Redfield. Lucy was killed by a street car in 1923 at Tacoma, Washington.

Nettie, the sixth child in the family, married Emil Bohl and lived south of Brentford. Two of their children still live there.

In 1897, Luther, the second boy, married Esther McLean who had come from Michigan with her parents, on April 1st, 1882. They lived in Clifton and Tetonka townships, south of Brentford, for thirty-two years. Their marriage united two large early day pioneer families as the McLeans had ten children. They raised a family of five children, one died at the age of thirteen years. Nettie Bohl, and her brother, Luther, and Douglas Houseman who died in Cleveland, Ohio, are buried in Mellette cemetery.

Harvey, now 82 years of age, lives in British Columbia, where his two sons reside. Floyd, the youngest of the family, lives at Castor, Alberta, near his only son.

In 1903 Jerry and Patience Houseman who had been living on the DeReimer farm south of Brentford, returned to Virginia, where they lived for three years. In 1906, after a brief stay in South Dakota, they moved to Castor, Alberta, Canada, and filed on land. After proving up on it, they went to Tacoma, Washington, where they lived the remainder of their lives. Patience died at the age of seventy-two years, and Jerry at the age of eighty-eight years.

CHARLES T. HOWARD

Charles T. Howard was born in Calhoun County, Michigan February 18, 1856, and died at Pipestone, Minnesota June 22, 1936.

He graduated from Albion College in Michigan in 1880, and was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Michigan in 1881. In the year 1882 he came with his parents to Redfield, Dakota Territory. Mr. Russel Howard, his father, built the residence now occupied by the McManamy family, formerly occupied by the Jacob Koerner family, and which was one of the largest residences in Redfield for a long time.

Charles T. Howard opened a law office in Redfield almost immediately. He continued practicing law here until the latter part of 1898 when he moved to Redwood Falls, Minnesota. During his many years in Spink County, Mr. Howard was actively identified with the building of the town, the county and state. He was Assistant United States District Attorney from 1889 to 1894, and in the year 1895 was elected to the Legislature and became Speaker of the House. He was a very capable trial lawyer, and an ardent student of the law. He had several partnerships in the practice of law while he lived in Redfield. The first was Howard and Warnock, when he was associated with D. A. E. Warnock. Later, he formed a partnership with H. C. Walsh, which continued until the fall of 1897, and was terminated by the death of Mr. Walsh. Early in the following year he was associated with W. F. Bruell, and the firm of Howard and Bruell continued until Mr. Howard moved to Redwood Falls.

Mr. Howard was much interested in the young men of the community and gave them much encouragement from time to time. He was particularly encouraging to those who wanted to attend school or college and enter any of the professions, and he was very helpful, not only with words and suggestions, but with active and material offers of assistance.

In 1892 Mr. Howard married Miss Eugenia Beecher of Redfield. Four children were born to them, a daughter, Harriet Pauline Gano, three sons, Charles B. Howard, an attorney in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Lt.

Paul E. Howard of the United States Navy; and Albert R. Howard, of Pipestone, Minnesota. His widow and children survived him.

Mr. Howard was elected District Attorney and Judge of Probate at Redwood Falls, Minnesota in 1911. Then the family moved to Pipestone and later he was elected District Judge of that District and continued to occupy that position for several years.

Mr. Howard was recognized as one of the leading lawyers in South Dakota. He was an outstanding citizen. His contemporaries, when he practiced law here, particularly in the early days were Thomas J. Walsh, H. C. Walsh, Thomas Sterling, W. A. Morris, D. A. E. Warnock, N. P. Bromley, R. B. Hassell, J. J. Myers, H. G. Warnock.

His work survives him. He has many friends and acquaintances in this part of the country who cannot forget him because of great constructive work he has done in the past in the development and building of this commonwealth.

CHARLES MORGAN HOWE

Charles Morgan Howe was born in Vermont in 1828. As a young man of twenty he went to sea. Several years later as his ship, "The Tropic Bird," returned from a round-the-world voyage, he decided to sell the boat. Later he married Mary Jane Bickford, a wealthy and socially prominent Vermonter, and they moved to Wisconsin where he engaged in business.

After about two years, the family moved to Mellette, Spink County, where Mr. Howe entered the mercantile business. He also was a grain buyer and had farming interests. At one time it was estimated that the family owned fifty-two quarters of land in the Mellette area.

Mr. Howe was strongly individualistic as indicated by the home he built in Mellette, "The Round House," which became a landmark in the community. The idea for this home, built on rounded lines, was derived from an old-time elevator which contractors had suggested was best adapted to high prairie winds since it was resistant to pressure. It was probably in 1883 that the house was built. It contained twelve rooms with twelve foot ceilings.

The Howes had a large personal library, and a unit of one thousand volumes from that library was given to the Mellette Public Library.

A son, Frank A. Howe, was born in Wisconsin, while the family was living there. To this son, three children were born: Charles, Francis (Mrs. C. S. Hamilton), and Mary Bickford Howe, of Long Beach, California.

(From an Article in the Aberdeen-American News, September 18, 1945, by Dwight Coursey.)

THE HOY FAMILY

Samuel, Joseph and John Hoy accompanied by their brother-in-law Jay O. Blythe, came to Dakota Territory from Napoleon, Ohio in 1881, and filed on land southwest of Doland and returned to Ohio for their families.

Samuel Hoy had been a bishop of the German Evangelical Church in Toledo, Ohio. In Dakota Territory in 1882, he with his brother, Joseph and John, supervised the building of the Irving Church six miles southwest of Doland. It was known as the Irving Church, and Reverend Hoy preached there until his death. He also traveled over much of South Dakota with his horse and buggy organizing Evangelical Churches. Among these, were churches in Agar, Osceola, Tulare, and Olivet.

Samuel, and his wife, Melinda, had twelve children. They were John, George, Willy, Charles, Wiley, Abner, Silas, Jesse, Harry, Lillian, Ida and Clara. All are deceased, except Lillian who lives in Seaside, Oregon and Harry, a lawyer in Portland, Oregon. Reverend Samuel Hoy and his wife are buried in Irving Cemetery, which was located in the yard of the Irving Church.

Joseph Hoy served under Grant during the Civil War. He and his wife, Amanda, were the parents of ten children. They were Albert, Howard, who taught in the School of Engineering at State College from 1900 to 1955, Nathaniel, Olin, Ross, Richard, Francis, Myrtle, Josephine and Linda.

Carl B. (Rube) Hoy, Director of Athletics at the University of South Dakota, is the son of Albert Hoy, and the grandson of Joseph Hoy.

Alva Hoy, brother of Rube, recalls their sod house, and remembers that after a severe wind storm the dust drifted in so thick that his mother had to wash his eyes so he could see. He also recalls that when he stopped wearing dresses as a child, his first pair of trousers were made from a white grain sack. Each Sunday he wore these to Church.

After a few hard years in Dakota Territory, John Hoy with his family moved to Missoula, Montana. Their children were Gene, Lorraine, Elva, and Ada.

Jay O. Blythe, brother of Mrs. Albert Hoy, and his family, lived across the road from the Hoys. Mrs. Blythe, and Mrs. Hoy, when in need of supplies, hitched the oxen to the stoneboat, took the children and drove the three miles to the country store. This round trip took most of the day.

Jay and Lydia's children were: May, Susan, Ross, Cora, Nellie, Florence and Bessie.

Mr. Blythe served as county commissioner for several years. He was also an enthusiastic member of the Populist Political Party.

DANIEL NEWCOMB HUNT

Daniel Newcomb Hunt, the first Mayor of Redfield, was born in Mansfield, Pennsylvania, on January 28, 1843, a son of Dr. Daniel Newcomb Hunt and Miranda Hunt, (the former a descendant of Ethan Allen of Ticonderoga fame, and of Priscilla Alden, heroine of Longfellow's poem, "Miles Standish").

In 1853 Dr. D. N. Hunt moved his family from Pennsylvania to Reedsburg, Wisconsin. In 1880 he came to Spink County where he died and was buried on the homestead of his son, Samuel, north of Frankfort, in 1884.

Daniel Newcomb Hunt, Jr. was ten years of age at the time the family moved to Wisconsin. From 1859 to 1861 he continued his schooling in Decorah, Iowa. On March 15, 1862 he enlisted as a private in Company C, Fifth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was with his regiment in three campaigns, five sieges and thirty-four battles, among which was the Indian Massacre in Minnesota in 1862.

After his discharge from the army, Mr. Hunt returned to Granger, Minnesota and engaged in farming and teaching school until April 1879 when he came to Dakota Territory, and became one of the first citizens of Redfield, being here when the town was founded and surveyed. Here he established himself in the real estate business. He was Register of Deeds from 1880 to 1881, and Secretary of the first Republican convention called in the county to elect delegates to the Territorial Convention. He was a member of the first constitutional convention of the Territory at Sioux Falls in 1884.

In May, 1883 he was elected first Mayor of Redfield, receiving a silver dollar as his salary, and he was re-elected to the office four times, the last time on May 1, 1904.

He called, and was chairman of the first school meeting held in the county. On February 15, 1875 he married Cidalene Janette Ellis, at Florenceville, Iowa. Three children, Arlington Chase Hunt, (deceased), Georgia Mae Hunt (Mrs. Wm. Spain), and Ray Nelson Hunt, were born to them.

ALEX C. JOHNSON

Alex C. Johnson was born near Meadville, Pennsylvania, May 20, 1859. He was educated at Meadville and at the Kent College of Law in Chicago, Illinois, and on January 3, 1881 he married Ida Devore, also a Pennsylvanian.

Mr. Johnson homesteaded south of Doland, in Spink County, in 1881. Shortly afterward he became the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad's agent at Raymond and, after serving several years there, became traveling auditor for the Van Dusen Elevator Company.

These were years when the railroad was new through central South Dakota, as was the elevator company. The C & N W had gone west through Spink County, all the way to Pierre, only a short time before Mr. Johnson became the C & N W agent at Raymond.

He was headquartered in Watertown while with the Van Dusen firm. He rejoined the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad as general agent in Watertown, in the middle 1890's and in 1898 transferred to Winona, Minnesota, as general agent. He went to Chicago in 1910 as C & N W Passenger traffic manager. He was promoted to general traffic manager in 1918 and was made vice president in 1922. He retired in 1928 moving to California where he lived until his wife's death in 1931 and then he came back to South Dakota, living at Rapid City.

He remained in Rapid City, in association with the Alex Johnson Hotel of that city, and was a spceial representative of the C & N W Railroad, for several years. He died March 18, 1938, at Monrovia, California, and is interred at Monrovia.

Mr. Johnson acquired a considerable tract of land south of Frankfort in 1915, his ranch being composed of two separate but adjoining farms which, together, totaled 2,080 acres. The farm was located five and one-half miles south of Frankfort, with the James River bisecting it almost exactly. Timber Creek flowed into the James River at almost the center of the ranch.

His son, Carl D. Johnson, took over the active management of the place in 1918, and lived in Frankfort from 1918 to 1922, having moved there from Watertown. The family returned to Watertown in 1922 but Carl continued to operate the holdings, and the family spent summers at the ranch until the 1930's. The operation was a considerable burden, as was every farm, through the Dust Bowl days. Carl Johnson continued to own and operate the ranch until Alex Johnson's death in 1938. The unit was then divided at his request, between Carl, who retained and operated the south portion, and Mrs. James G. McFarland, one of Alex C. Johnson's two daughters, who was left the north ranch.

Carl Johnson sold his ranch, which approximated 1,440 acres, in early 1947, because of failing health and his inability to continue active management. He died July 17, 1947.

Alex Johnson's interest in Spink County spanned several decades and was centered, of course, in the holdings south of Frankfort. The area along the James River is quite scenic, and he at one time planned to retire there when he left the C & N W Railroad. However, this never came about.

During the time that he was one of the C & N W's top officials in Chicago, it was said that if a Spink County elevator needed grain cars, or a Spink County merchant or railroad client wanted extra railroad service, a call or letter to "Johnson in Chicago" was sure to get it. He always considered Frankfort and the ranch a sort of second home and delighted in spending all possible time there.

One of the ranch's "showpieces" was its herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle, a pet project of Mr. Johnson's, and one he developed over about three decades' time. It numbered as high as four hundred head at its peak, but was dispersed at the time he sold the ranch in 1947.

The ranch is now part of the Hutterite Colony which has been built in this area.

Carl D. Johnson's son, Alex C. Johnson, resides at Watertown, South Dakota.

GEORGE G. JOHNSON.

George G. Johnson was born in Middlesex County, New Jersey, on June 5, 1843. The family moved to Waseca, Minnesota; here George attended school and assisted his father who operated a mill.

At the beginning of the Civil War he enlisted in Company K, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. At the close of the War, he returned to Janesville, Minnesota, and purchased a hotel. In the spring of 1881, he moved to Dakota Territory, locating near Redfield. In July of the same year, he stocked a small store with hardware.

In 1886 he married Miss Laura E. Storrs, of Philadelphia. Two children were born to them.

He was the first Auditor of Redfield, and later City Treasurer and Councilman.

HERBERT E. JOHNSON.

Herbert E. Johnson came from Dane County, Wisconsin. He left there in March and arrived in Mellette the first of April, 1882, and two days later located on a claim on a pre-emption, and built a shanty 10x12 feet in Beotia Township. When he located here, there was just one other house in sight. His mother came in June and then he and his brother built a larger house and she kept house for them. Within a few months, the prairie was dotted with shanties.

All supplies had to be hauled from either Groton or Mellette. The first postoffice in this part of the territory was located in Mr. Johnson's home. Here, also, was held the township meeting to name the township. He was married in July, 1887, to Miss Josie Booth, at Mitchell, but his wife died January 8, 1890. He was married again in January, 1893, to Mary Reynolds, daughter of Eli Reynolds.

ALBERT KIETZKE FAMILY.

Albert Kietzke, born in Daushkrome, Germany came to America with his parents September 17, 1869 locating in Wisconsin. When still a young man he came to South Dakota to work on a farm in Belmont Township. There he made his home with his brother.

Minnie Platte was born March 10, 1869 in New York City. While still a small child she moved with her parents to Chicago, after the Chicago fire. In 1882 they moved to Dakota. On September 29, 1888 in the sod house built by her father, Henry Platte, she and Albert Kietzke were married. Later both the Platte and the Kietzke families moved to Lake Township and made their homes on the bank of Turtle Creek.

There were three children in the Kietzke family, a daughter, now Mrs. Hazel Walker of Hawthorne, New Jersey, a daughter, now Mrs. Elsie DeNoon, of Redfield, South Dakota, and a son, Elmer, who died during the influenza epidemic of the First World War.

Incidents of Mrs. DeNoon's childhood stand out clearly in her mind. She recalls the barking of the prairie dogs as they perched on the mounds outside their holes, and the five-mile trip the family took each Sunday to their country church.

Many times as Mrs. DeNoon went to her work in the Court House and glanced up at the buffalo head hung in the hall, she remembered the buffalo horns that she had seen as a child in the pasture and the buffalo wallows along the creek banks. She often played in the wallows, as she looked for cow chips to burn in the stove. Mrs. DeNoon's father spoke often of the "great blizzard of 1888"; when he was on his way to Crandon the storm broke with terrific force. He was compelled to return home and arrived safely, guided by a fleeting glimpse of his chimney top.

Mr. and Mrs. Kietzke retired in 1915 and moved to Redfield. Mr. Kietzke died in 1950, and Mrs. Kietzke in 1950.

WILLIAM C. AND LUCY A. (BLACK) KISER.

William C. and Lucy A. (Black) Kiser, were among the earliest settlers, in Tetonka Township, having come to Dakota Territory in 1881 from Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin. Mr. Kiser had been Sheriff of Dane County for a number of years. He was a man highly respected, and of great energy and force of character.

He was a successful farmer and stock raiser. In 1905 the Kisers moved to Los Angeles, California, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Mr. Kiser died March 18, 1925, at the age of 96 years. Mrs. Kiser preceded him in death.

WILLIAM H. KLAUS.

In the fall of 1900, Reverend William H. Klaus and family moved into the parsonage located at 612 First Street East, in Redfield, when he was appointed pastor of the German Methodist Church, located on the corner of Seventh Avenue and First Street East.

On Sunday morning he attended Sunday School, conducted the morning worship service, drove one Sunday eighteen miles to the Clifton Schoolhouse in Harmony Township in the Bastian neighborhood, for services, and then to Redfield for Epworth League and preaching service in the evening. The next Sunday, after services in Redfield, he drove to the Mielke, Kaiser, Wendt, vicinity east of Mellette to conduct services and back to Redfield for the evening meetings. A Junior League was organized and met at the church Sunday afternoons, supervised by some of the Sunday School teachers.

The laymen and laywomen were interested and active in the promotion and progress of the program of the church. Reverend Klaus called on all the parishioners at least once during every quarter of the year, and always visited those who were ill.

A district Camp-Meeting was held every year in June or July on the banks of the James River near Fisher's Grove, then in the Chris Hagman Grove northeast of Redfield, and later in Beulah Park, the last meeting, the sixty-second, being held July 2 to 7, 1946.

On March 23, 1904, the ladies from Crandon Settlement, Cottonwood Lake, Rockham. and Redfield met in the Redfield Church for a joint meeting of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society (now Woman's Society of Christian Service) conducted by Mrs. H. E. Hilmer, our District Superintendent's wife, who lived in the District parsonage in the northern part of First Street East.

In the fall of 1904, Reverend Klaus moved to Iowa serving Alden and Dows for two years, Burt and Fenton three years, and Garner three years then to Redfield, South Dakota, for five years, and Crandon Settlement, at that time the largest German Methodist congregation in South Dakota, for four years.

It was during World War I, when the German language was prohibited, that the Redfield German congregation discontinued and the members joined the various churches in Redfield, the Methodist, the Lutheran, and the Congregational. The Crandon Settlement congregation is still active, even though many of the older members have moved to Redfield and

Tulare.

Wm. H. Klaus was born about thirty miles west of Dubuque, near Colesburg, Iowa, in a German Methodist area, September 25, 1856. He attended the rural school, Galena Normal, Galena, Illinois, which later established a college in Charles City, Iowa (where he finished his education), and then joined Morningside College in Sioux City.

Rev. Klaus married Mary E. Wenz in Springfield, Illinois, December 23, 1881. Four children were born to them: I. N. (Ike), Julia E., Milton W. (who graduated from Redfield High School in 1916, and died in 1944) and a daughter who died in infancy.

From the fall of 1921 to 1924 he was in charge of the German Methodist Church in Mason City, Iowa; then he retired and moved to the homestead near Colesburg, Iowa, where he died on February 7, 1931.

SADIE KLEBSCH.

Sarah Ann Klebsch was born in Musceda, Wisconsin, July 24, 1866. She was the daughter of John and Mary Ward who were of English descent. There were eleven children in the family; Sadie was the third daughter.

She arrived in Huron, with her mother, two brothers, and two sisters in the summer of 1879 at the age of thirteen years. At that time, Huron consisted of a depot, a hall, and a grocery store combined with a meat market, and a post office. The family was fortunate to find a room in the hotel where the six of them spent their first night in Dakota. After breakfast of baked beans, corn bread and black coffee they climbed into a lumber wagon and started their journey. The seats were only trunks and boxes, and it was pulled by two old horses. And thus, they began their trip to Redfield. At last, in the hot sun and dust, after fording the James River, they arrived at the dugout with a dirt roof and a board floor, which was to be their new home.

Like so many pioneer families, the Wards settled on the banks of the James River. Aunt Sadie described the location as beautiful, with its trees and miles of level prairie, covered with grass moving in the wind. The river supplied the family with water, and the fishing and hunting supplemented their meager diet. They also found wild grapes, plums and buffalo berries growing. Huron was the nearest trading center.

In 1881 Aunt Sadie's mother died. It was at this time she went to Vinton, Iowa, where she finished her education and then returned to South Dakota.

On April 15, 1884 in Old Ashton she was married to a young farmer by the name of Ernest Klebsch. For a year the couple made their home on his father's farm, and it was here that their first child, Bertha, was born. They then moved to Hand County, seven miles south of Burdette. During this period four sons were born to them, Fred, Ernest, John and Floyd.

In 1897 they returned to Redfield and purchased Mr. Klebsch's father's farm. Now two more children, Edward and Bessie, were born.

Aunt Sadie was a natural leader in the community. With a large family, she felt the need of religious and social activities. So she visited neighbor after neighbor to promote the first Sunday School which was held at "The Little Red School House", near the site of what is now known as the Kurtz School. Reverend Randalls, a minister of the Congregational Church in Redfield, often came to preach and help with these meetings. The seminary students at Redfield College helped with the Sunday School.

She also helped to organize "The Busy Bee", one of the oldest, if not the oldest, rural ladies' club in Spink County. She had the honor of being elected its first President.

From early childhood Aunt Sadie was interested in nursing, and from much practice she became a skilled nurse. Many in the community depended on her, and she helped bring more than a hundred babies into the world. On one occasion, during a blizzard, following the orders of the doctor, given over the 'phone, she delivered a baby unaided. She also did much nursing during the influenza epidemic of 1918.

Mr. Klebsch died in 1928, and the youngest son, Edward, "took over" the farm. From this time on, Aunt Sadie spent part of her time in Redfield and part of it on the farm. At the age of seventy-six her robust health began to fail.

Her two daughters, Bertha and Bessie, had spent several years teaching school. All of her sons, with the exception of Floyd who was a social worker, became farmers. They all married. Her two grandsons, still farm the old home farm known as "The Council Stone Farm". This farm now has been worked by the Klebschs for four generations.

Aunt Sadie's old age was saddened by the death of both of her daughters in the same year, and by the death of her sons, Fred and Floyd.

One of the highlights of her life occurred in 1955 when, at the age of eighty-eight, she was chosen an attendant to the Queen of the Seventy-Fifth Jubilee of the city of Redfield.

She was a very religious person and was a lifelong member of the Congregational Church at Redfield.

She was able to live alone until she was ninety years old. On August 8, 1957, she died and was buried in the family lot near her husband and sons.

ANATOLE F. LABRIE.

Among the very early settlers in Spink County were the Labrie family who settled in and around Turton and in the Doland vicinity. Many of the second and third generations still live there.

A. F. Labrie (Nat) was born at Manteno, Illinois, June 8, 1857. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Labrie, Sr.

As a young man, A. F. worked for the Chicago, Northwestern Railway Co., as chairman in a surveying crew near Winona, Minnesota. In the spring of 1880, with two of his brothers, Joseph E. Jr., and Arthur C., he came to Spink County and filed on claims in Sumner Township. The railroad ended at Watertown, hence they had to drive overland with their supplies, lumber, and furniture. Their parents came to Dakota Territory a little later and took claims in Sumner Township.

Nat and his brother Arthur opened a real estate office in Frankfort and helped many pioneers make final settlement on their lands.

In April, 1885 he married Regina A. Blain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nazaire Blain, also early settlers. In November, 1889 he was appointed first Clerk of Courts, when South Dakota became a state, and served in that office for several years, and also as Register of Deeds. The family moved to Redfield in the spring of 1890.

Mr. Labrie was associated with J. D. Fargo in real estate and abstract business, and later became the owner of Spink County Abstract Company, which he conducted until his death in August, 1924.

He was a member of St. Bernard's Catholic Church and was of great assistance to Rev. George MacConnachie in building the new church in 1909.

During World War I, he was Chairman of local Red Cross Chapter and served in that capacity for several years. He was also Secretary of Redfield Building & Loan Association. Mrs. Labrie passed away in May, 1948.

Their children are all living, and are as follows: Mrs. L. A. Dunton (Marie Louise), Redfield, South Dakota; Mrs. Paul R. Bohen (Corinne), St. Paul, Minnesota; Mrs. A. O. Clave (Irene), South St. Paul, Minnesota; Mrs. D. V. Hardie (Leila), Syracuse, New York; Mr. Paul B. Labrie, Berkeley, California.

JOSEPH EUSEBE LABRIE. JR.

Joseph Eusebe Labrie, Jr. was born March 17, 1845, the son of Joseph Eusebe Labrie, Sr., and Marie Louise Brosseau, at The Dusean Road, Quebec, in Canada, He emigrated to the United States with his parents, September 7, 1847, the family settling at Aurora, Kane County, Illinois. In 1851, they moved to Bourbanais in Will County. There he grew to manhood. On March 17, 1863 he enlisted in the Union Army and stayed until the close of the Civil War.

On December 26, 1868, he was married to Rosalie Senechal, who was born February 26, 1848. They resided on a farm at Manteno, Illinois until February 3, 1881, when he emigrated to Spink County, Dakota Territory, where he lived until his death in 1927.

As one of the pioneers he was very active in county affairs. He was the first County Commissioner from his district; he organized the first school district in Sumner Township, and built the first schoolhouse.

The great-grandfather of our subject, Captain DeLaBrie, furnished equipment for two hundred fifty men and accompanied General Lafayette to the new world from France. After the war had ended, the Captain and his men did not return to France, but settled in Canada, which was then a French possession. They then became hunters and fur traders. In 1847, the Labrie family emigrated from Canada to the United States, and settled at Kankakee, Illinois. Joseph E. Labrie attended the public school until he attained the age of thirteen years, and then concentrated his efforts upon the work on the home farm, as he was the eldest son of the family and his services were needed. He remained under the parental roof until after the Civil War started and in 1862 he volunteered for service in the Northern Army, becoming a member of the Seventy-Sixth Illinois Infantry. He remained at the front until hostilities ceased and saw much hard service up and down the Mississippi River, being in the battle of Vicksburg and Mobile, besides many other engagements. He was also in the army that was sent to the Texas border to drive Maximilian back.

After the war he remained at home with his parents until his marriage, which occurred in 1868. At that time he began farming his own land, which he had previously purchased after returning from the army.

It was in 1880 that he arrived in Spink County, Dakota Territory, where he secured a tract of unbroken prairie land. He began its development and broke about sixteen hundred acres in the first two years. He remained upon his farm until 1886, and succeeded in bringing the land to a high state of cultivation. In 1886 he abandoned farming and took up his abode in Doland, where he was Cashier of the First National Bank, and where he held that position for a decade. He then turned his attention to the loan, land and insurance business in partnership with his brother, A. F. Labrie, who lived in Redfield. In addition to his real estate operations he placed many loans and wrote a large amount of insurance.

The parents of his wife, Oliver and Josephine Senechal of Chicago, both died at Ashton, Dakota Territory. They were pioneers of Spink County, settling in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Labrie had four children: Oliver J. Labrie, and R. William Labrie, both of Doland, Daisy G. Labrie, wife of S. W. Clark, attorney of Redfield, and Blanche, wife of Miles McNickle of Doland.

OLIVER JOSEPH LABRIE, SR.

Oliver Joseph Labrie, Sr., son of Joseph Eusebe Labrie Jr., and Rosalie Senechal Labrie, was born at Manteno, Illinois, on June 16, 1872. He came to Sumner Township, Spink County, Dakota Territory, in 1881, with his parents.

Oliver attended the public schools. He also had one year of study at the University of Illinois. He taught for two years in the county schools.

In 1894 he married Marie Louise Klapperich, and they moved to their farm northwest of Doland, where they lived until the fall of 1920, when they moved to Turton. They lived there for one year, before moving to Doland, South Dakota. At Doland he was employed by the Farmers' Elevator Company and Implement Company, for sixteen years. He retired from active work on April 1, 1940, and became engaged again in his first and choice profession of farming.

He served as rural mail carrier in Sumner Township for six years, as temporary postmaster in Doland, for eight months, as Councilman for ten years and as Clerk of Sumner Township School District for nine years. When electricity came to Doland, he worked there as an electrician.

MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL LAMBERT.

by Rosa Lambert

It has been said that a pioneer is one who goes before and prepares and lightens the way for those who follow him. Among this group can be numbered my parents, Michael and Walburga Lambert, who carved from the raw prairie a self-supporting home for their seven sons and six daughters.

My father, Michael Lambert, was born in Wiltenger, a small village near Trier, Germany, on May 26, 1836. He was one of four children, three boys and one girl who grew up in a motherless household. In March, 1864, because of economic conditions caused by the wars between France and Germany, he, with other immigrants left their homeland, sailed up the Rhine River to Cologne, traveled to Holland, then to England, crossed the Atlantic Ocean, and seventy two days later, on May 24, 1864, arrived in New York City. With other immigrants, he went by train to Wisconsin and settled in Dane, a small town in Dane County, where he lived for the next eighteen years. During these years he worked in lumber camps and on farms. As he had learned the cooper's trade in Germany, he helped many settlers build their homes. After applying for citizenship papers, on October 24, 1866, he became a citizen of the United States.

In 1870, another group of German immigrants arrived in the town of Dane, Wisconsin. Among them was my mother, Walburga Littel, at that time a girl of eighteen, a girl, whose father in 1829, then a boy of ten years, had left his home in Alsace Lorraine, France because of religious persecutions, and with his father had migrated to Bavaria near Munich to make their new home. It was from this place that Mother, accompanied by her uncle and aunt, came to America. They traveled from their home by way of Amsterdam to New Orleans. In New Orleans, Mother saw oranges, bananas, and colored people for the first time. From that city the immigrants embarked on a flat boat and came up the Mississippi River as far as Prairie du Chien and from there made their way to Dane, Wisconsin to live near relatives who had previously settled in that town.

Mother and Father became acquainted at community gatherings in Dane and were married February 17, 1874. Six children were born to them during the eight years they lived in Wisconsin. Eager to obtain more land for their growing family, and unable to obtain it in that section of the country, my parents decided to move farther west, as many settlers in Dane had already done. In the spring of 1882, they arrived in Dakota Territory and bought land six miles north of Frankfort. This land was first owned by Henry Metz. Father paid $1,400.00 for it and it took him twenty years to pay the $400.00 mortgage on it, before the land really became his own.

It was only by courageous effort that my parents were able to make even a bare living here on the prairies of Dakota. Drought and grasshoppers, low prices, and depression followed one after another, through the years. At times wheat sold as low as 37 cents a bushel; butter sold for ten cents a pound, and eggs for nine cents a dozen. At one time Father sold dressed hogs in Turton for three cents a pound. These prices were balanced somewhat by what was paid for other commodities. Mother bought sugar for twelve cents a pound and coffee for ten cents a pound. Father paid $7.90 a ton for coal, and purchased a good working horse for $20.00 Men earned from $6.00 to $8.00 a month working on the farm; this amount included board and room. Harvest wages were a dollar and a half a day.

Our farm had to be a self-supporting unit. What was raised on it had to provide all the food and clothing for our family's needs. Mother made the clothing, including overalls, bedding and fly nets for horses. In winter, wool was carded, spun and knit into stockings, mittens sweaters and caps. Worn clothing was cut into strips, braided, and made into rugs. Father repaired all the shoes for the fifteen members of his family, and Mother made the soap and candles for the household, ground the coffee by hand, processed all the meats such as bacon, hams, and sausages. She worked indoors and out, helping with the chickens, milking the cows and working in the harvest and hay fields. She also acted as mid-wife for her neighbors; a doctor was rarely called to the homes of these pioneer families; salves and liniments solved most of the illnesses.

The outside farm work was equally difficult for Father, for he worked long hours in his fields and walked many miles following his plow or drag. Threshing was a long drawn out process, many times lasting until early winter, with neighbors helping one another. Father's first threshing machine used ten horses for power. Straw was used for the fuel. It was not until 1908 that we had a push-binder and header combination. Ours was the first push-binder in the vicinity of Frankfort, and many came to see this wonderful labor-saving machine operate. Father always took the first fifty bushels of wheat which he threshed to Ashton, to be ground into flour for the family. Trips into town were made in the lumber wagons or in the top buggy. In 1900 Father bought a beautiful surrey and our family rode in style. Father died January 1, 1914. He had lived to see his land well stocked with cattle and horses, but he had never ridden in anything but a buggy or a lumber wagon. Mother left the farm in 1919 and died in the fall of that same year. However, the pioneering instinct was strong in their children, for two sons homesteaded later in other counties in the state; a daughter went to a frontier region in Alberta, Canada to make her home, and two daughters and a son homesteaded in Montana. Thus, the pioneering tradition of my parents was carried on by their sons and daughters.

JOHN W. LANG.

John W. Lang was born in Steuben County, New York, in 1853, the son of a farmer. His father died when John was sixteen years old and the following year the family moved to Dodge County, Wisconsin, and the older sons engaged in farming. When John was twenty-two he rented land and started to farm for himself. He married Ora Aldrich, a teacher and native of Dodge County, Wisconsin.

In 1879 he came to Dakota Territory and located in Prairie Center Township, where he built a sod shanty 12x16 feet, and a sod barn the same size. His nearest neighbor was fifteen miles distant and there was but one shanty between Watertown and his sod house.

Elk, deer, buffalo and antelope were plentiful then and when he needed fresh meat Mr. Lang lured an antelope within reach by a red handkerchief tied to a stick.

In the fall of 1879 he was joined by his family, at which time he erected a frame building. He farmed with one team, a wagon and a plow.

His family was the first to settle in Prairie Center Township, and they were among the first settlers of Spink County. Mr. Lang was the first constable in Spink County, and a town trustee in Doland.

JOSEPH LENZ

Joseph Lenz was born in Wisconsin on March 5, 1861, and moved with his parents, in 1876, to Iowa where he lived until 1881. Then, in charge of Matt Steffes' three emigrant cars, he came to Dakota Territory.

Matt Steffes, with his two children, Gertie and John, started February 28, 1881 from Stacyville, Iowa and traveled as far as Winnebago, Minnesota where they were snowbound for four weeks. Mr. Steffes returned home, giving Mr. Lenz charge of his stock and household belongings. Mr. Lenz and the two children went on to Flandreau where they were delayed a week because of high water. From Flandreau, with the stock and household goods, they drove in covered wagons to Watertown, where they were met by Mr. and Mrs. Steffes. They drove on to Mr. Steffes' homestead, reaching there on May 17th. Mr. Lenz then took up his homestead and stayed there until fall, when he walked to Watertown, the nearest railroad station, and returned to Stacyville.

In the spring of 1882, he returned to Dakota Territory and that fall all of his family moved to the Territory and established their home in Beotia Township.

In 1883, he married Kate Schillinger. Four sons and one daughter were born to them, Raymond, Bernhart, Edward, Englebert, and Leone. After some years they replaced their claim shanty with a larger house and a full set of farm buildings.

In 1912 the family moved to Conde. Even in trying times, Mr. Lenz did not lose faith in South Dakota; he was always optimistic about its future. He took part in many public and civic affairs during his lifetime. People admired his judgment and sought his advice in civic and financial matters.

On January 5, 1940, Mr. Lenz died. Three sons and a daughter survive him; Edward of Southgate, California, Bernhart of Merced, California; Englebert of Conde, and Mrs. Jack Sawyer of Los Angeles, California.

MR. ELIPHALET LEWIS

Eliphalet Lewis, son of Daniel Lewis, (1772-1856) and Nancy Lewis (1805-1889), of Eagle Harbor, New York, was born in Ridgeway, Orleans County, New York in 1832, where he spent his boyhood. Later in Armada, Michigan he met and in December, 1860 married Sarah Styles Wells. After some time they moved to Champaign, Illinois where they bought land and farmed.

In 1881 Lewis came to Ashton, Dakota Territory, and filed on a claim, the East half of Section 30, Township 118, Range 62, in Clifton Township. He returned to Illinois and again in 1882 returned to Dakota territory. He shipped his belongings in two immigrant cars and brought his family to Dakota Territory the same year.

Having proved on his claim, he hauled lumber with a wagon and oxen and built a house and barn. He then bought the Northwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 118, Range 62 and planted a tree claim. In 1882 they purchased the Northwest Quarter of Section 1, Township 117, Range 63, in Great Bend Township, and later the Southwest Quarter of Section 26, Township 118, Range 63, and the Southeast Quarter of Section 27, Township 118, Range 63 in Jefferson Township; the North Half of Section 31, Township 118, Range 62, in Clifton Township; and Section 26, Township 118, Range 60, in Turton Township, in all 1440 acres. This was sometimes known as the Lewis Ranch. He bought and raised cattle until he owned one hundred fifty head of cattle, and two hundred hogs, and thirty horses.

Lewis and his neighbor Charles Graves, owned and operated one of the first horse-powered threshers. He and another neighbor J. T. Roberts, and Evan Roberts, bought a well rig and dug many of the surface wells in Clifton Township.

He donated an acre of land for a cemetery in Clifton Township. Eliphalet Lewis died in 1891 and was buried in this cemetery. His estate passed into the hands of his wife Sarah, and their two sons Elbert D. and Daniel. Daniel died in 1902 and Sarah in 1906. Elbert remained on the farm. He served many times as Clerk of the Clifton School District and of the Clifton Town Board. He was a member of Ashton Oddfellows, Ashton Masons, and Yelduz Temple. He died in 1941, and his estate passed to his wife and three sons who still operate the homestead.

JEFFERSON LOWER

Jefferson Lower, son of Conrad and Mary Ann DeColon Lower, was born at Chillenango, New York, December 25, 1828, one of a family of seven children. A blacksmith and wagon-maker by trade, Jefferson had remained on his father's farm until he was twenty-seven years of age. In 1849 he and a friend went to California to prospect for gold, remaining there fourteen months. Upon his return he worked in Goddard's saw mill in LaCrosse, Wisconsin until the panic of 1857.

He married Harriet Denton in 1845. To them four children were born. The first child, Theodore, died in infancy. Nellie, Theodore J. and Ella were born January 22, 1857, July 20, 1858, and July 1, 1862, respectively. After the death of his wife, in 1864, he managed a wagon shop in LaCrosse.

In 1877 Jefferson married Bertha Dare, a widow with an eleven-year old son, George. In the spring of 1879, having built two covered wagons, purchased two teams of oxen, two breaking plows, and loaded tools, cook stove, bedding and food supply for a year, Jefferson and his son Theodore set out for Dakota Territory, arriving at Watertown, April 15, 1879. The next day they started for what is now Armadale. Later, Mr. Samuel Bowman helped them locate, each having a homestead, pre-emption and a tree claim. Theodore's land adjoined his father's on the north. On the land of the latter, a dugout; on Jefferson's land, on the east side of the river they built a large dugout. The dugout had one large room and two bedrooms, contained two windows, and a door. Mrs. Lower came in September with her son George, and a three-months old son Lewis. She had brought with her a barrel of pork and other provisions, but, during the trip, rain water seeping into the barrel, had caused the pork to sour. However, she traded the sour meat to the Indians for blankets, moccasins and a man's fur coat which Jefferson wore for many years.

Lower and his son built a dam on the James River, and established a flour mill run by water power, the first mill in the county. Finished in 1881, it was a three-story building 60 x 40, with a large feed bin on the south side for bran. Ingraham was the first miller, and Clarence Culver was the second. Mrs. Lower baked nine loaves of bread every day to test the flour for the mill. Several other buildings were erected following the mill; there was a grocery store, barber shop, a saloon. Theodore was postmaster, assisted by Mrs. Lower. Judge McNab named the settlement "Clyde" after a river in Scotland.

The mill closed in 1887 for lack of water power. It was dismantled, and the lumber used to build a house for Cal Spencer. The lumber from the mill provided a kitchen for Jeff's framehouse, a machine shed, and two corn cribs, and two granaries that could be moved from quarter to quarter.

After Jeff built his frame house in 1882, the dugout was turned into a blacksmith shop and used until 1897 when damaged by high water.

Other children born to the Lowers were: Hattie, who was born during a blizzard, March 9, 1881; Clyde, September 30, 1883; and Jefferson, Jr., August 16, 1886; and Minnie, January 1, 1890.

Jefferson Lower died June 30, 1897 (the funeral procession was a mile long). Mrs. Lower was left with five children and a large farm to manage. She was a Rebekah for twenty-eight years, and a deaconess in the Congregational Church at the time of her death, March 16, 1927.

SAMUEL LUNNEY

Samuel Lunney and his brother, Joseph Lunney, came from Hartford, Connecticut to Huron, Dakota Territory, in May, 1881 on the first train that year. They came up the James River to Old Ashton, and stayed in a hotel there managed by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bowman.

They filed on land east of Ashton and lived with Mr. Charles Beardemphl, in his dugout in a bank of the James River, until they built their claim shanty. All their supplies were hauled from Watertown, with an ox team.

Samuel Lumney and Carrie Landin, who had come originally from Sweden, were united in marriage on July 18, 1889. To this union one child was born, Hannah M. Lunney, who resides at Ashton, South Dakota.

JOHN AUGUST LUNSTRUM

John August Lunstrum was born in Westergotland, Sweden, on November 18, 1857, and there he attended school for several years, but at the age of fourteen years made his own living.

He came to America in 1881, and located near Madison, Wisconsin, and later in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he worked as assistant to a bricklayer.

In 1883 he homesteaded in Faulk County, Dakota Territory, and later moved to a farm northeast of Redfield.

He married Mary Jacobson who had come to Frankfort in 1888 from Preston, Minnesota. Five daughters and one son were born to them.

They continued living on the farm on which Mr. Lunstrum had first settled.

Mr. Lunstrum died February 11, 1945, at 87 years of age, and Mrs. Lunstrum on April 10, 1947, at the age of 77 years.

JOHN P. LUTTER

John Peter Lutter was one of Redfield's first baby boys. There are many older citizens still living in the city who came as immigrants, but John was one of the first baby boys born there.

John was the son of Wenzel and Anna Lutter who migrated from Losau, Austria, in 1881. They came to New Ulm, Minnesota in February. They followed the railroad to Huron where they spent part of the summer. They came to Redfield, where Mr. Lutter worked as a carpenter. He built the barn that stood on the C. H. Myers place near Beulah Park. This old landmark was just recently torn down.

While the family was living in the town of Redfield, John was born on January 8, 1882. He was the middle one of seven children. His birthplace was a small house on the creek bank at the north end of what is now First Street East.

John's father took up a tree claim four miles southwest of Redfield, and until the family could build a frame house, they lived in a dugout on the bank of Turtle Creek, one-half mile north of where Dan Lentz now lives. Here they farmed for several years.

His boyhood was much like that of all pioneer youngsters of that day. He was six years old when the "Big Blizzard" struck. He remembers that snow completely covered their dugout and shut out the daylight. When the storm was over, his father had to shovel the snow into their home to make an opening to the outside. Many of their neighbors lost livestock, but the Lutters and their livestock survived without mishap.

In those days, school was held about five months of the year. The first school that John attended was held in an abandoned farmhouse on the Warren homestead. He also went to a real schoolhouse that had been moved to the Bice farm. Later he went to a school that stood west of what is now the Leonard Schmidt farm. His first teacher was William Dawson. Other teachers that he remembers are Martin Clutch and Jennie Scott.

He also remembers the fact that the family sometimes walked a distance of eleven miles to attend church in Zell, when there were no services in Redfield.

In 1905, John went to Canada where he took his own homestead. There he married Mary Grunsky. There his first two daughters were born. After four years, he decided that he liked South Dakota best. He returned to Redfield in 1909. The rest of his life was spent farming near Redfield, until 1948. In that year he moved to town where he is living at the present time.

Among his descendants are eight children: Mrs. Ted Feldsien, Mrs. George Neilsen, Mrs. Ernest Richmond, John J., Mrs. Virginia Garvey, James, Don, and Mrs. Lloyd Hanson. There are also thirty-three grandchildren and thirty-three great-grandchildren.

THE LUXTON FAMILY

By: Clarence Luxton

John and Mary Luxton, pioneers of Spink County, came from Ontario. Canada in an immigrant car containing their few possessions and arrived in Huron, the end of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad line, in May, 1881. They unloaded their belongings, stayed over night in the old Dakota House, and in the morning started across the prairies to their homestead in Harmony Township, eight and one-half miles northeast of Frankfort. Here in a sod house they started house-keeping.

Mr. Luxton, who had learned the trade of wagon making in Devonshire, England, where he was born, in order to make money to operate his farm, went to Fort Pierre, where for five years he worked for the Northwest Stagecoach Shops.

During this time, Mrs. Luxton, a hard-working woman from Scotland, with her three small boys, George, twelve years of age; Thomas (Clarence Luxton's father), seven years of age; and Robert, two and one-half years of age; proceeded to make their home in a sod house and do the farming. Mrs. Luxton, with her three small boys trailing after her, broke the prairie acres with her walking plow. Many times while her husband was in Pierre, she walked the twenty miles to Redfield for groceries. The groceries usually consisted of a fifty pound sack of flour, which she carried on her back, a gallon of kerosene, and a can of Blackstrap molasses.

Twice a year, Mr. Luxton hitched his Indian pony to the two-wheel cart which he had made from the front wheels of a stage coach, loaded it with meat, cloth, and other necessities, and guided only by instinct and the stars, drove the hundred forty miles from Pierre to his sod house. The trip took three days.

Time never dragged for the Luxton boys, for Tom and his brother George spent much of their time twisting hay to be burned in the old stove, while Robert piled it away for later use.

During the winter months the boys attended the Craig school, three miles north of Frankfort, and later the Anderson school, a mile southwest of their home. During the great blizzard of January 12, 1888, the Luxton boys, with some of the other pupils, spent the night at the home of their teacher, Mrs. Sarah Lincoln, who lived a half mile east of their school.

In November, 1894, Ida L. Kubitz (Clarence Luxton's mother) arrived in Dakota with her stepmother, who later married Fred Bastian, of Clifton Township. Miss Kubitz, who was a skilled seamstress, had sewed for many of the large department stores while she lived in Chicago.

As time moved on, Tom and George prepared to start farming for themselves. True to old English custom, George, the oldest son, settled on the homestead and Tom moved a mile southeast to a new location. The house on this land was a prefabricated type, built in New Hampshire and shipped by the minister, Deacon Joy, for his new home in Dakota. He and his wife and two daughters lived there for a year and then, unable to stand the loneliness of the prairies, sold their property to Grandfather Luxton, and returned to their former home in New Hampshire. Tom Luxton and Ida Kubitz were married on October 26, 1898, and made this prefabricated building their new home.

Hearing of a land opening in Virginia and, being a pioneer at heart, Grandfather Luxton loaded an immigrant car and took his wife and youngest son Robert to help settle that state. However, he did not stay long, as Robert became a victim of malaria fever and the family returned to Dakota.

In 1904, again lured by the notice of land opened for settlement in the great Canadian Northwest, Grandfather Luxton again moved his family and located on a farm called "Silver Wood Farm" in Togo, Saskatchewan. Here Mr. and Mrs. Luxton spent the remainder of their lives. Grandfather Luxton died in August, 1916, and Grandmother Luxton in April, 1917, two months after the death of their youngest son, Robert. The latter had married a year previous to his death, and a daughter Roberta was born posthumously.

In 1912 the Thomas Luxtons decided to build a new house a few rods from where they were living, because the yard of the Deacon Joy house, in which they had been living since their marriage, was flooded each year during the spring thaws.

1912 was an exciting summer, for George and Mary Luxton decided to build also. During those months, Mrs. Thomas Luxton did the work of two women. She churned, baked, pumped the water for the household use; besides cooking for the family, she fed the carpenter, mason, painter and a crew of six harvesters.

Then, for two weeks she entertained her brother, Ed. Kubitz and his family from Chicago.

At the end of the summer, their dream had materialized, and they moved into their new home. They farmed and lived there until they retired in 1946, when they moved to Frankfort.

On October 26, 1948, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Mr. Luxton died in 1951 and Mrs. Luxton in 1959. Clarence Luxton and his wife, Ebba, a registered nurse, continue to live on the home farm eight and one half miles northeast of Frankfort.

THE WILLIAM AND JOHN MacNEILL FAMILIES

In the spring of 1883, two brothers, William and John MacNeill, from Prince Edward Island, came to Dakota Territory, with their families, landing at Hitchcock.

William settled in Spink County, Buffalo Township. His children were Oliver; Ina; Edward; Frank; Ruby; Elizabeth; Jessie; and Margaret. All are deceased except the daughter, Jessie, who lives in Portland, Oregon, with her husband, Edwin Balsiger.

John MacNeill settled in Beadle County with his six sons; Gordon was one son, who lived on his farm in Spink County for fifty-four years.

He was a County Commissioner for two terms, and served for many years on both the school board and township board. He had a gift of writing rhymes and in 1953 the Spink County Farm Bureau sponsored the printing of a book of his poems, which he selected from the many hundreds he had written.

His sons, Elton and Laird, both live in Buffalo Township, Spink County, near the home place. A grandson, Bruce MacNeill lives on his grandfather's farm.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN MANNINGS

John Mannings was born January 11, 1841 in London, England. He was reared by an uncle and aunt, Thomas and Elizabeth Mannings. When he was seven years of age they came to America, making the ocean voyage in a sailing vessel, which took fourteen weeks.

They settled on a farm at Port Washington, Wisconsin, twenty-five miles north of Milwaukee. At a very young age, working with his uncle, he drove oxen in the fields. Desiring an education he ran away from home and obtained work in a flour mill at Winona, Minnesota, where he worked and went to school until the outbreak of the Civil War. Responding to the call of his country for volunteers, he enlisted in Company K, 1st Minnesota Regiment of Volunteers in May, 1861. Having completed his term of enlistment, he was discharged at Ft. Snelling, Minnesota, on the 5th of May, 1864.

In September of the same year he re-enlisted in Company C, 1st Minnesota Regiment of heavy Artillery, and was discharged at Chattanooga, Tennessee, June 17, 1865.

He participated in forty-two skirmishes and battles during the war, taking part in the Battles of Antietam, Bull Run, and Gettysburg. His regiment, the First Minnesota, at the command of General Hancock, charged and defeated an entire brigade of Confederate soldiers; 262 officers, and men went into the charge and 47 came out, Mr. Mannings being one of the 47 survivors. General Hancock said: "There is no more gallant deed recorded in history."

Mr. Mannings was wounded three times during the war, once with a bayonet, once with a bullet in his arm, and then when he was caught under a heavy tree as he was helping to cut a path through the woods, for the army to pass.

After the war, he returned to Minnesota and on March 21, 1867, was united in marriage to Miss Evelyn S. Gilman, at Winona, Minnesota. They made their home on a farm near Utica, Minnesota for several years and then moved to Winona, where he was employed by the Normal School for eight years.

In the fall of 1880, he came to Dakota and filed on a homestead two miles east of Redfield. He returned to Minnesota and in April of 1881 brought his family to the new home, where they lived for nine years.

In 1890 they moved to a farm eight miles northeast of Redfield, where they lived for the rest of their lives (with the exception of two years spent on a farm north of Frankfort).

To this union, seven children were born: Arthur, the oldest, killed in a run-away accident when fourteen years of age; Charles Edward (Ed); John Herbert (Bert); Clarence Leslie (Les); Lucy Bent, Nona Akin, and a little girl who died in infancy. Mrs. Lucy Bent is the only survivor at this time.

MANN BROTHERS

There were three Mann brothers who came to Dakota from Wisconsin.

William T. Mann homesteaded on the Southeast Quarter of Section 21, Township 119, Range 62 in 1882. His son was born there in 1888, but he didn't stay too long in Dakota Territory.

George A. Mann came to Dakota Territory in 1883, homesteading on the Southeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 119, Range 62, where he lived until 1894 when he moved to the Southwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 119, Range 62. He lived there for a year before moving to LaPrairie Township.

Fred B. Mann came to Dakota Territory in 1885, homesteading on the Southwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 119, Range 62, where he lived. His two oldest daughters were born there, and his wife died there in 1892. He left in 1893, but returned in 1895, remarried in 1898, and lived there until moving to Brentford in 1910.

THE MIKE MATHENY FAMILY

Michael Matheny arrived in Dakota Territory in the spring of 1882, in company with a group of settlers from DeWitt and Fulton Counties, in central Illinois.

Shortly after his arrival, he filed on a homestead and a tree claim eight miles southwest of the present site of Conde. Three years later he returned to Blue Ridge, Illinois, where he and Mary E. Cook of Farmer City, Illinois were married.

Both Mary and Mike taught country schools during the late Eighties and early Nineties. They remained on the farm near Conde until the fall of 1918. In 1919 they moved to Aberdeen, where they spent their later years. The farm, including the homestead and tree claim, is now owned by their son, Fred C. Matheny of Seattle and a daughter Mrs. M. Harlem.

Other descendants are three grand-daughters: Fred H. Matheny, of San Francisco, Donald M. Matheny of Seattle, Washington, and Mrs. Lloyd Harrison, of Baltimore, Maryland.

FREEMAN McCART

Freeman McCart, a Civil War veteran, and his wife, Frances, came to Clifton Township, Spink County, in 1886 from Delavan, Wisconsin, with nine of their twelve children, Gusta, Annette, Dorothy, Ann, Hiram, Henry, Minnie, Flora and George.

They lived all of the early years in Clifton Township, later moving to Frankfort where the parents died.

One of the children is still living, Jeannie McCart Stedman (Mrs. Gene), living at Newtown, North Dakota.

James McCart, son of Freeman McCart, and his wife, Rosella, came to Spink County in 1886, and also lived in Clifton Township. Two of their three children are living: Nettie McCart Turner (1889), Redfield, South Dakota; Ernest J. McCart (1890), Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Hiram and Dorothy Ann Dunham, parents of Mrs. Frances McCart, came to Spink County in 1884 or 1885. They lived north of Ashton. Mrs. Dunham is buried at Ashton. Mr. Dunham later went to Wisconsin, where he died and is buried there.

McLEAN HISTORY

Out of numerous spellings comes the name "McLean". The ancient source was from Mac Lilla Eain, the clan founder who among several clan chiefs, lived in Duart Castle in Scotland in the twelve hundreds.

John McLean was born in Great Britain, Ireland, May 6, 1829, from which place his folk, including four brothers, a sister, and he, emigrated to Albany, New York. Mary Haley, who was to become his wife, was born at Albany, New York, August 27, 1836. Her folks emigrated to New York from England. Not knowing each other, the two families moved west to Spring Lake, or Grand Haven, Michigan, where they met and, on the 13th day of August, 1854, John McLean and Mary Haley were married. To this union, ten children were born, five boys and five girls.

George, the oldest son, stayed in Michigan where he was married and raised nine children. The next oldest sons, Jim and Hugh, came to Dakota Territory in 1881 with Frank Fassett's and the McCallister's. Fassett and Hugh filed on land nine miles north of Frankfort. Jim filed on land nine miles southwest of Conde. Will McLean came a few months later and took land near to Hugh.

John and Mary McLean, with the seven remaining children, a North family, and Frank Bassett came to Frankfort April 1st, 1882. On the way to Dakota, John, Sr. and John Jr., rode in the immigrant car which had belongings for all the families. The others rode in a coach.

Jim McLean had secured a job as brakeman on the road from Aberdeen to Montevideo, Minnesota, so the McLeans came to take his place near Conde. The first summer they lived in a two-room shanty and drank slough water until a well was dug.

Will McLean worked on a farm near Sioux Falls, for W. H. McCartney; while there he lost a watch, which was found and returned to him thirty-five years later.

In 1884 Jim was married. He was a railroad conductor. In 1900 he moved to Seattle, Washington. He and his wife and youngest son are buried there. A son and daughter survive.

Hugh, the other '81er, married Caroline Melton, who came from Virginia, with her folks in 1884. They raised their three children, of which two survive. The first daughter, Adeline, married George Bradley, who spent his first winter in Dakota in a cave at Old Ashton. Floyd Bradley of Redfield was one of his eight children. Two died in 1906 with typhoid fever. Conde Cemetery is the final resting place for the McCartneys, Bradleys, Hugh McLeans, and Will McLeans.

John McLean, who rode from Michigan in the immigrant car with his father, was married the second time at Bryant, where he spent the latter part of his life. They had six children. John his wife and two children are buried at Bryant. Amy, who was a school teacher for several years, boarded at Blain's nine miles north and east of Frankfort, where she taught school. She and her husband, Lem Carner, who farmed southeast of Conde, moved to Wayland, Michigan, about 1904 where they and their only son, George, who was killed in an auto accident a few years ago, are buried.

Harriet who married Will McCartney died in 1900 at the age of thirty-three while living at Sioux Falls, leaving three young children who are still living. She was brought to Conde for burial near her father, John, who died a year before.

Mary McLean lived until 1904, when she died at the age of 72 years.

Edgar Taft came to Dakota Territory in 1887 from Barre, Vermont, at which time he married Margaret. After twenty years in Dakota they, with their only daughter, returned to Barre, Vermont. Margaret survived her husband by twenty years.

The last and youngest of the McLean family, Esther, who married Luther Houseman, in 1897, is eighty-five years old and living in Oakland, California, where she does her own housework. Luther died September 19, 1951, and is buried at Mellette beside a son, Lyle. As a young girl, Esther drove the team on the headerbox and rode the lead horse on the first binders. Esther and Nina Fassett who were friends for seventy-five years, learned to get in a barrel and roll down a strawpile, when they were children. They dared Mother McLean to try it. She, not knowing how to brace herself, took quite a beating.

FRANK MARKHAM

Frank Markham was married in 1885 and brought his bride to Dakota. They lived in a tent the first summer, until they could hire a Mr. Austin to build them a house in the fall. Mrs. Markham helped with the construction of the building. Erastus Markham, his father, and his two brothers had come to the Territory earlier, and the brothers filed on homesteads, the father filing on a tree claim.

Since Frank could not get trees to grow on his land, he filed his homestead rights over the tree-claim rights. The Markhams lived across the road from Johnson's and the road between the two places was the route taken by the Indians when they traveled from the Rosebud Reservation to Sisseton. This, to a child, was a very interesting sight, with several braves seated in front, the squaw sitting in the back of the wagon, and the extra ponies following along.

Mr. Markham also was a thresher. He and Warren Carter had a horse-power machine.

METTLER – HOWELL FAMILIES

Among the early settlers in the Dakota Territory were Mr. and Mrs. Guy E. Mettler who came to Spink County with their respective families in the early 1880's.

The Rouser Mettler family came from Osage, Iowa, in the spring of 1881, and settled northeast of Frankfort. At this time Guy, one of six children, was twelve years of age.

The Thomas Howell family came from Winona, Minnesota, in the spring of 1882 and made their home south of Redfield. At this time Jennie Howell (later Mrs. Guy E. Mettler), one of five children, was not quite seven years of age.

While attending Redfield College, Guy and Jennie met and were married on June 15, 1892. For some time they farmed north of Frankfort, later moving to Waubay where they lived for a few years. In 1907 they moved to Redfield, where for twenty-six years they lived in a house built on land Thomas Howell had purchased when he first came to the Dakota Territory. In the fall of 1933 they went to Huron and made their home with their daughter until their deaths. Mr. Mettler died on August 4, 1939, at the age of 70, and Mrs. Mettler died on September 10, 1960, at the age of 85. They are survived by their daughter, Vivien Mettler Ruhlman, an only child, and by a granddaughter, Barbara Ruhlman Butler, also an only child.

With the exception of a few years spent in California, Mr. and Mrs. Mettler lived in South Dakota. Both were loyal and staunch supporters of the state. In spite of the devastating blizzards and scorching summers, they had endured, they remembered best the beauties and goodness of this land. They always felt that Dakota had been good to them.

REMINISCENCES

Mrs. Mettler (Jennie Howell), writing of her childhood memories, in 1958, said: "It seems to me that there was more of life packed into the ten years after we came to Dakota Territory in 1882 than in all the rest of my life, and I am now 83 years old. In those days, time never stood still, it was just one big event after another, terrible summer storms, hot south winds, hail, dust, grasshoppers, and Indian scares by the score. After spending the winter of 1882 in Redfield, we moved to the farm in 1883. My worst hates were coyotes and Indians. One incident stays in my mind, of a man and his pet bear named Josephine. The man played a hand organ and the bear danced. What a thrill that was for us children. We gave them all the money we could find and all the food they would take. Then they ambled down the railroad track and we unhappily saw the last of our dancing Josephine. As we lived by the railroad track and the road, not a day passed that we did not have callers, tramps, Indians, claim jumpers, covered wagons, and homesteaders, by the dozens.

The prairies were wide open, without end, but they were full of life – animals, birds, and all kinds of good hunting such as geese, ducks, prairie chickens. My three brothers were tireless hunters and, of course, I was right with them. We walked hundreds of miles hunting. Then there was the old Indian mound full of bones, but I didn't like to go there;

however, I still have one old broken arrowhead I picked out of "our" mound.

The fun of school and debates, the big neighborhood parties at the schoolhouse, the summer picnics at the Jim River, all these blend in my mind like a playback of a picture. The Big Blizzard when some of us had to stay in the schoolhouse all night left an indelible imprint on my memory. And so life went on and we kids loved it all. None of us ever lost our love for Dakota, and we lived here all our lives. I consider the years from my seventh birthday to my seventeenth birthday the wonderfully exciting years of my life."

And in the spring of 1960 when she was reaching her 85th year, Mrs. Mettler wrote on the fly leaf of a book about South Dakota she had been given, the following inscription: "I often wish some of these writers of early Dakota history would write of the many beauties and good things that were here — the sunsets, sunrises, wild roses, meadowlarks, wild geese, wild ducks, crocuses in the spring, beautiful white world after a snow, grass that covered my head, and all the other wonderful natural beauty we saw in the 1880's."

Mrs. Mary Mettler, Ralston, (a younger sister of Guy Mettler), who lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, recalled her experience in the big blizzard. Dated March, 1961, she writes: "Dad took us three girls (Grace, Jessie, and me) to school that morning using the spring wagon. When it started to storm some of the kids went home, leaving three Schafers and us three along with the teacher, Nellie Flynn Harlow. The teacher, with the help of the older ones, carried in enough coal to last thru the night. In the afternoon, Guy and Gene came after us girls. They had a team that was very good to follow the road, and they had quilts and blankets piled in the sleigh. They wanted the others to go home with us, but the teacher thought they should stay there. So Guy got us girls in the sled and covered us completely over with blankets and all. Then he had Gene lie down across the back of the sleigh so he could watch for the road. Guy did the driving, but he could go only a few feet and then he would have to stop to dig the snow out of the horses' eyes and nostrils. Dad and Mother stood on the porch of the house listening for us, but they didn't hear a thing until the horses hit the porch. I had not been scared because I knew my big brother, Guy, would get us home."

HERMAN W. MIELKE.

The only English words Herman W. Mielke knew when he arrived in Old Ashton in the spring of 1886 were "Farmer Turner".

Turner was the man for whom August Rutzotz, uncle of Herman Mielke, worked. August had asked Mielke to come from Germany to work with him. No one met Herman on his arrival in Ashton, but by saying "Farmer Turner" a man pointed the direction to the farm. When night came and Herman had not reached his destination he slept in a straw stack. In the morning he located the farm. Shortly after that, Herman was hired to work for W. C. Kiser, a man in Tetonka Township who owned ten quarters of land.

Herman sent for his parents when he had sufficient money. His mother sold the farm she had inherited from her parents, Frederick and Carrie Rutzotz, for $1,000.00. paid a $200.00 debt, and with her husband, six sons and parents, aged 71 and 80, started for America.

A livery-man in a wagon with five seats met them at the station in Mellette on their arrival, March 28, 1890, and brought them to their new home on the Kiser place east of the present Leslie Kettering farm. They lived there for a year and then rented the Fred Mann place across the road. In the spring, Albert and William Mielke also worked for Kiser. Herman and Albert broadcast the wheat while William set stakes so they would plant only a bushel and a half per acre.

During the winter, the younger boys attended the rural school, but Herman taught himself to read and write.

In 1893 he purchased two quarters of land from George and Manda Russel of Wisconsin. Then he moved his home and started farming for himself.

About the same time, the parents of Herman bought their farm a mile east of Herman's. Gus and Paul Mielke, younger sons, remained at home and farmed for them. In 1914 Gus married and bought a farm two miles south of Herman's. Since five Mielke boys were now farming adjoining land that part of the township was sometimes referred to as Mielkeville.

Two other brothers chose different work. Rinehard operated a grain elevator in Brentford, and Helmuth became an attorney and practiced law for many years in North Dakota.

In 1902, Herman bought his third quarter of land and built a new home a short distance from his first home. His children, Ezra and Hazel, had been born on the old place, and Ava on the new.

Soon after Herman had married Minnie Schwantz, November 23, 1899 (she had come from Germany with neighbors in 1891), they drove a team of horses to Redfield to attend German Camp Meeting, where they camped for several days. In June, 1901, he drove one hundred twenty-five miles to Rosholt to visit friends. They were caught in a snowstorm and forced to spend the night at Fort Sisseton.

In 1913 he bought the Northwest Quarter of Section 27. Later when Ezra married Edith Sandquist, Herman built a second group of buildings on their tree claim for their home.

Herman Mielke died December, 1930, and his wife in October, 1957.

JAMES M. MILES.

James M. Miles, former editor and proprietor of the Redfield Press, was born April 25, 1848, and when very young his family moved to Dane County, Wisconsin, and later to Dodge County, Minnesota.

The first seventeen years of his life were spent in the schoolroom teaching and studying at the University of Wisconsin. He also served as Superintendent of Schools in Dodge County, Minnesota.

He began his newspaper career in 1879 by purchasing the Dodge Center Press which he published for one year. He then located in Brookings in 1880 and published the Sioux Valley Journal for two years, after which he went to Redfield and published the Redfield Journal.

He was appointed Clerk of Courts of Spink County in 1885. He later purchased fifteen acres of land near Redfield, irrigated by ditches from an artesian well, and soon had a garden which was the pride of the county.

In 1894, Mr. Miles became the proprietor of the Redfield Press and in 1897 was the owner.

Mr. Miles was married in 1873 to Grancena Burdette. She died in 1875 and in 1878 he married Ella Greenwood of Mankato, Minnesota. Three children, Leona, Lou Ella, who taught Latin in Redfield High School; and Lee M. Miles, were born to them.

MR. AND MRS. HENRY E. MILLER.

Henry E. Miller was born in Schshelden, Germany May 22, 1849. When he was a year old he came to America with his parents. He received his education and grew to manhood in Sandwich, Illinois.

Catherine Elizabeth Braun was born in Helsdorf, Germany December 11, 1857, and came to America in 1872.

On April 9, 1876, these two were united in marriage. To this union, eleven children were born.

In 1884, with four small children, the Millers moved to Dakota homesteading near Cottonwood Lake. The family and all the household goods arrived at Tulare, on the same slow-moving train. The minister from the Cottonwood area met them in a lumber wagon and took them to his already over-crowded home where they stayed until they could make their own sod house.

This sod house when completed consisted of only one room. Later a lean-to, where the children slept, was added. Hot flat-irons were used to warm the beds on cold winter nights. Often, the top quilts were covered with snow or frost.

The stove, with its tall drum-like cylinder, was fed from the top. In this they burned twisted hay. When well packed, the stove would hold the fire for a long time.

Seven other children were born to the Miller family in South Dakota. Gustov Otto, the fourth child, died in 1887 at the age of five. The minister's wife officiated at the funeral as her husband was away at the time, on another call. The child was buried in the pasture, as there were no cemeteries near by, at that time.

The children attended the Horn School about two miles from their farm.

The Millers usually went to Crandon, a distance of about twenty miles, to attend church. Sometimes church was held in a neighbor's house and at other times it was held in the school-house. Mr. Miller was very active in church work and during his life was honored with many church and township offices.

In later years, the family built a frame house. There for many years they had the "Boz" post office and the "Miller Switch" (telephone exchange).

Peddlers and sojourners of every description made the "Millers" their stopping-off place. No one was ever turned away.

In 1912 the family moved to Redfield. Two sons "took over" the farm, but Father Miller returned each year to help thresh. He died November 3, 1915. Mrs. Miller continued to live in her home on Sixth Avenue in Redfield, until her death on February 13, 1941.

MITCHELL FAMILY.

By S. C. Mitchell.

Responding to the call of the new land, my father, R. C. Mitchell, who was then 22 years of age, left his father's farm in Fremont County in southwest Iowa, near the town of Sidney, in the month of August, 1881 for Dakota Territory. He traveled overland with a span of mules, and wagon, gifts of his father. It required three weeks to travel the 500 miles.

While some had come to Dakota Territory prior to his arrival here, he was among the first to homestead, choosing the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 119, Range 63. F. G. Haven now lives on the SE¼ of that section. He there built a "claim shanty", bringing to it his bride on Christmas day in 1882, Ellen Clarke, whose parents had arrived in Dakota Territory from Dresden, Ontario Province, Canada at approximately the same time he had arrived.

The original "claim shanty" built by my father, although now in a state of disrepair, still retains the original proportions and stands on the quarter section of land now occupied by Mrs. R. B. Clark and daughter Charlotte. It is used as a workshop and offers a sharp contrast to the type of building deemed adequate for habitation today.

My father knew and visited with Drifting Goose on a good many occasions. Drifting Goose, as reported by my father, was a man of intelligence, integrity, and understanding. For some reason the family of W. C. Hedges, who lived on the banks of the James River where the home built by Eugene Hammer now stands, maintained friendly relations with the Indians who frequented their premises. My mother, who made her home with the Hedges, and who was a niece of Mrs. Hedges, has often told of occasions when she and her aunt had cleaned the house and completed their baking, of having a band of friendly Indians enter their home, appropriate the bread and otherwise accommodate themselves to every facility which a friendly family of the 1880's could offer.

My mother often recalled that the Indians were courteous and, while their manners seemed crude, they never in any way proved unfriendly or desirous of committing any grievous wrong.

My father was one of the crusaders for Old Ashton in the county seat dispute.

Father, with his family, left Dakota Territory in the fall of 1887, returning to his original home in Iowa. However, his love for the land of his adoption remained constant, and in the spring of 1912 he and his wife and family returned to South Dakota, where they purchased Section 33, Township 120, Range 62, from Wallace Gregory. There my parents resided until their death. Mother died in February, 1934, and Father in January,

1935. This land is now occupied by the S. C. and Robert Mitchell families.

During the drought years of the '30's when the hearts of many of the younger quailed, my father's faith and confidence in the future of South Dakota never wavered. His oft repeated prophecy that "Old South Dakota will come back" has come true. I must confess that I lacked the confidence he displayed at the time. Many times since his death, I have wished that I might tell him how completely his judgment has been vindicated.

JUDGE MAURICE MORIARTY.

Judge Maurice Moriarty (to his close friends "Mory"), one of the early settlers in Spink County, was born at Clinton, Iowa, May 13, 1859. His boyhood days were spent on a farm near Wilton Junction, Iowa. After completing his grade and high school work he entered Iowa State University and graduated with honors in the class of 1881. At that time the President of the University wrote: "To Whom it May Concern: Maurice Moriarty is a young man of superior scholarship and possesses an irreproachable character."

In April of 1882, he came to the Territory of Dakota and located on a homestead near Northville in Spink County. He developed his homestead into a farm , taught school, and edited the Northville Advance, as well as practicing law.

On December 13th, 1883, he united in marriage with Estella Reiter, who had come with her parents from Belle Plaine, Minnesota a few years earlier. The Reiter family had spent their first winter in Dakota in a little log cabin in Fisher's Grove and on the river east of Redfield, and later moved to Northville where they ran a hotel for several years before going to the state of Washington.

In 1901 Judge Moriarty was elected to the office of Clerk of Courts of Spink County, and re-elected in 1903. After serving these two terms, he opened a law office in Redfield and practiced with success. His ability and fairness were so marked that in 1923 he was appointed Judge of the Circuit Court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, and after two years received an appointment as Court Commissioner for the Supreme Court. He remained with the Supreme Court until 1929, at which time Mrs. Moriarty's health began to fail, so he resigned and went with her to the Ozarks of Arkansas where they spent a year before settling down in Wilton Junction, Iowa near the Judge's boyhood home.

This brief review reminds us of the Judge's major achievements in his chosen profession, but from the time he first pioneered in this territory and state until he retired, his life was filled with less pretentious but, none-the-less important tasks of a good citizen. For sixteen years he had been a member of the Redfield School Board, and for many years President of the Board. He was a trustee of the Congregational Church and an active member of the Kiwanis Club at Redfield, until his duties as Supreme Court Commissioner took him to Pierre where he became a member of the Pierre Kiwanis Club.

As a lawyer he was ever conscious of his obligations and circumspect in their observance. He was stern and uncompromising in obedience to law, but charitable toward the weak, the erring and the unfortunate.

As a husband and father, he provided the members of his family with all the comforts that his means would permit and was most interested to see that his children received the benefits of a good education.

On December 21, 1935, as Judge Moriarty crossed a street near his home at Wilton Junction, Iowa, he was struck by an automobile, and died six days later on December 27, 1935. Interment was made at Greenlawn Cemetery, at Redfield, South Dakota.

His wife, though in frail health, survived him almost ten years. Shortly after her husband's death she moved to Miller, South Dakota, where she lived with her daughter Gertrude Moriarty, near other children of the family, until her death on June 17, 1945. Burial was in Greenlawn Cemetery at Redfield.

C. H. MYERS.

C. H. Myers came to Spink County, Dakota Territory in 1880. His wife and son joined him in the spring of 1881, and they built a house in the east part of Redfield, on what is now Sixth Avenue.

In the fall of 1880 Mr. Myers was elected County Commissioner in the first Spink County election, and in the fall of 1881 he was one of the twelve persons who were assessed as complete owners of real estate in Spink County.

The first church services in Redfield were held in 1880 at the J. E. Welker home and later in a passenger coach near the Northwestern Depot. It was said that Mr. Myers always took up the collection.

There was a territorial election in the fall of 1882 and Mr. Myers was a member of the Capital Commission. This meant that Redfield would be a candidate for the State Capital. The hill a mile east of Redfield was then christened Capital Hill and the land for several miles around it was claimed by options of a corporation called the South Dakota Development Company. However, Redfield never acquired enough votes, and the Capital was granted to Bismarck. Later, Mr. Bruell took a prominent part in dividing the territory into two states.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK S. MYERS.

In 1878 Frank S. Myers, one of the crew surveying for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, recognizing the strategic position of what is now Redfield, homesteaded on 160 acres extending from the school location to and including the cemetery east to what was the Otto Johnson farm. Later, he turned that portion now in Redfield into town lots. In addition he took a 160 acre tree claim three miles east of Redfield.

Mr. Myers was instrumental in bringing to this area his parents, John and Maria Myers, his four brothers, Fred, John, Henry and Will, and two of his three sisters, Mrs. Gustav Bruell, and Mrs. Joseph Schalkle, together with Frank and D. B. Bryan and Mary Bryan Smith, brothers and sister of Mrs. Myers. All of them, with one exception, homesteaded near Redfield and were influential in the town's early development. Caroline Bruell Bailey and Raymond Schalkle are the last of the once numerous Myers family, who still live in Redfield.

Mr. Myers was largely responsible for the several members of the Taylor family, neighbors of his in Earlville, Illinois, who homesteaded around Conde. Members of later generations of that family continue to live there.

Frank S. Myers was born October 28, 1858 on a farm near Earlville, Illinois being next to the youngest of a family of eight children born to John and Maria Myers. In 1876 he moved with his mother and brothers to Winona, Minnesota. While living there he attended the Normal School.

In 1878 he came to Dakota Territory and in 1879 engaged in the lumber business in Redfield and later in the grain business, but for the most time he operated one of the farms near Redfield.

In October, 1881, he married Jennie Lois Bryan, one of the descendants of the Minneapolis "Glass Block" Donaldsons, at her home in Minnesota City, Minnesota. They left immediately for Redfield where she was the first bride to come to this community, and settled on his homestead.

Six children were born to them, a little girl who lived three weeks, Chester J., Grace (Mrs. Harley Davis), Evangeline (Mrs. H. G. Schwartz), Gladys (Mrs. Dayton J. Edwards), and Burton F.

Mr. Myers was the first postmaster in Redfield. At that time the postoffice was located in a small board shanty in what is now the eastern part of the city. Later it was moved to the central part of town and he continued to act as postmaster until there was a change of administration, and he was succeeded by E. W. Foucht, a Democrat.

In 1894 he was elected mayor of Redfield and in 1898 he was again appointed postmaster and held that office for ten consecutive years. He was at one time a member of the Board of Education, and of the City Council, a charter member of the Redfield Methodist Church, and a member of its Board of Trustees, a position he held until his death nearly fifty years later.

A continuous resident of Redfield, since the spring of 1879, he died, the last survivor of a large family of brothers and sisters who pioneered in or around Redfield, on December 11, 1929. He rests in Greenlawn Cemetery, on his former homestead near the city he loved so well, among the many friends who pioneered with him in its making.

Mrs. Myers, the last surviving charter member of the Redfield Methodist Church, died November 2, 1955 in Huntington Park, California, where she had lived the last seven years of her life, at the age of 94 years.

FRANK OLSON.

Frank Olson was born in Zangeberga, Sweden, on July 11, 1862. In 1882 he came to the United States and worked in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Chicago for several years. In 1887 he came west to Dakota Territory homesteading near Scatterwood Lake. He did not prove up on this land, but moved to Mellette where he lived for some time.

In January, 1889, he married Anna Johnson, in Chicago, Illinois, and returned to South Dakota. Anna Johnson was born December 11, 1862 in Ahus, Sweden and had come to the United States to her parents' home near Red Wing, Minnesota, where she attended school for two years, and then went to Chicago with her brother to work.

In 1900 they bought their first quarter of land in Clifton Township, and later added more land to this farm. At the time of his death they were the owners of 960 acres of land. He was one of the directors of the Farmers State Bank and the Farmers Elevator Company of Turton.

Anna Olson will be remembered for her "green thumb" and the ability to grow so many varieties of trees and flowers. Her crocheted work was unexcelled.

Fred and Elmer Olson managed the farm in October, 1920, when Frank and Anna Olson retired and moved to Mellette, Fred locating on the old farm, and Elmer building his farm nearby, and Paul joined the Navy.

HERMAN OTTO.

Herman Otto immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1877. He worked near Preston, Minnesota for two years, and was married there in 1879. In 1881 he came by horse and wagon to Spink County in Dakota Territory.

The first spring and summer he broke one hundred acres of sod with a walking plow. In the fall he returned to Minnesota. The following spring he came back to Dakota, bringing Mrs. Otto and the two children, Paul and Ida. They brought their household goods and other possessions. Upon returning to the homestead, he found that some "damn Yankee" had jumped his claim. All his last year's work was gone. Since he was an immigrant he had neglected some minor detail in filing for the claim. With the courage of the times, he filed on another claim, built a sod shanty, and started breaking the land again.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto spent the remainder of their lives in Spink County, and were blessed with a family of eleven children, some of whom still reside in Spink County. Charles Otto still lives on the original homestead.

HARLAN P. PACKARD.

It was a cold cloudy day in April, 1879, when the Chicago & Northwestern train, such as it was, pulled into the station at Watertown. Alighting from that train were landseekers looking for some of Uncle Sam's free land. Among this group was Harlan P. Packard, headed for Spink County to take advantage of this Civil War Veterans' land option. As there were no other conveyances in Watertown, he finally secured an ox team to take him to Redfield.

After four days traveling, he crossed the James River at Belcher's Ford in what is now Fisher's Grove, and reached Redfield.

Using his Soldiers' Pre-emption he filed on two quarter sections of land located just northwest of the present town of Redfield. One of these quarter sections is now part of Redfield, known as "Packard's Addition". The north part of this quarter is now a part of the holding of the State School.

After making his filing he returned to Janesville, Minnesota, which was at that time his home. In April, 1881, Mr. Packard, with his family, which then consisted of Mrs. Packard and two very small boys, Harlan C., and Frank H., returned to Redfield. A small two room shack was constructed on the west quarter on which Mr. Packard had made his filing, about a quarter of a mile north of the present Legion Hall. The family lived in this shack for several months until their new home, situated a short distance from where the present bridge crosses Turtle Creek, was completed.

On Mr. Packard's return to Redfield, he opened a general store just north of the present building now known as the Issenhuth Block. He operated this store for several years, and as far as in known this was the first store in Spink County.

About 1890 Mr. Packard purchased the hotel known first as the "Jarvis House" and then as the "Central House". This hotel was a story and a half frame building. Mr. Packard soon had the front portion of the building moved away and the first section of the Central House built. Years later, after considerable face lifting, the hotel became known as the "Harlan Packard Hotel".

For several years Mr. Packard served as the mayor of Redfield. During his tenure in office a great many improvements were made in the city, two of which were the erection of the Carnegie Library and the moving of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad station from one and a half miles southeast of Redfield to its present location.

As a member of the State House of Representatives, he was instrumental in having the State School and Home located in Redfield. In 1895 he organized the Merchants' Mutual Insurance Association, which was the first mutual insurance company organized in South Dakota. He operated the company for many years and, during this time, the Merchants' Mutual Building, now known as the Nicholson Building, was built.

Mr. Packard, who had lived in Redfield since 1881, moved in 1916 to Minneapolis, Minnesota where he died in 1923.

Mr. Packard had purchased a plot of land comprising three complete city blocks in the northwest part of Redfield, from the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. He donated these to the City of Redfield for a park. The gift was accepted by the city and named "Packard's Park."

MR. AND MRS. JOHN S. PERRITON.

John S. Perriton, an early settler in Spink County, was born in Nova Scotia, N. B., December 23, 1842, of English ancestry. The family later moved to New York where some descendants still reside.

At an early age, John S. Perriton emigrated west serving from Iowa in the Civil War, and later settling in Illinois. He was united in marriage to Jean Scott Lindsay, and for a time they made their home at Atlanta, Illinois.

To this union, two children were born: Lillian L. and Henry Amos.

In 1882 the family came by immigrant train to Spink County, Dakota Territory, where he filed on land at Ashton, this being the end of the railroad. Here he operated a meat market.

John S. Perriton was a Mason and helped organize the Blue Lodge at Ashton. He was their first Master. He was also a member of the G.A.R.

In 1908 he disposed of his holdings in Spink County and, with his daughter, Lillian, moved to Huron where he resided until his death on July 3, 1923. Burial was in Ashton Cemetery. His wife died August 28, 1905, and she was also buried at Ashton.

Lillian L. Perriton, the older child, was born at Atlanta, Illinois. She received her education at Bloomington, Illinois and Yankton College. She taught in the public school at Mellette, South Dakota, for eleven years, having to retire because of ill health. At Ashton she was active in church and social work. She belonged to the Eastern Star, being a Past Matron, and to the D.A.R., through her mother's ancestry.

Lillian L. Perriton died on April 1, 1923.

Henry Amos Perriton was born July 24, 1877, at Atlanta, Illinois. He received his early education at Ashton, graduated from the University of South Dakota, and from Highland Park School of Pharmacy (now Drake University) at Des Moines, Iowa.

In 1903 he located in Huron and was employed as a pharmacist. In 1907 he went into the drugstore business for himself, and he and his wife continued to operate a drug store and gift shop in Huron until he was forced, in 1946, to retire on account of ill health.

In Masonry, Henry A. Perriton was a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, and the Commandery, of which he was Past Commander. He was also Past Grand Commander of South Dakota and a member of El Riad Shrine.

On July 5th, 1905 he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Lee Halk of Lexington, Virginia, daughter of Alexander G. and Virginia Halk.

Mr. Perriton died June 8, 1958 in Huron, South Dakota.

MR. AND MRS. HENRY PLATTE.

Henry Platte was born November 6, 1939, in Germany and came to America where he made his home with a brother in New York City.

He enlisted in the army in the beginning of the Civil War and served more than three years, being wounded once. He was honorably discharged at the close of the war.

Elizabeth Betzhorn Platte was born in Schoeringen Hoga, Hanover, Germany September 16, 1846 and came to America when eleven years of age after the death of her crippled mother. She made her home with friends in New York City.

The Plattes were married at the close of the Civil War. Ten children were born to them, seven boys and three girls. Two were born in New York, six in Chicago, and two in Dakota Territory. All but three of them had died in infancy and one son at the age of seventeen years. There are two living children, Mrs. Chas. B. Schmidt, (Laura); and Wesley Platte, both living in Redfield, South Dakota. An older daughter (Mrs. Minnie)

Albert Kietzke, who also lived in Redfield, died in 1950.

Since work was scarce in New York after the war Mr. Platte came to Chicago after the great "Chicago Fire" and there learned the plastering trade. Mrs. Platte came later and for eleven years operated a school supply and a home-made-candy store.

Upon coming to Dakota Territory in 1882, the Plattes settled in what was known as the Crandon Settlement. Mr. Platte cut sod with a spade and built their first home, as he did not have any horses. In order to file his papers on the land, he walked to Pierre from Watertown where the railroad ended.

He did many plastering jobs for neighbors and one time walked to Faulkton to work. He plastered the old Wesleyan Methodist Church which was moved to Redfield from Crandon before the present church was built. During the blizzard of 1888 the bell in this church rang continuously.

Later the Plattes moved to a farm on Turtle Creek for which they had paid $300.00. They now lived in a regular house, but they were often forced to move out when the spring floods came. One time the hogs and calves were saved by standing on the straw banking piled around the house, and one calf even came into the house.

The barn was made with a straw roof and this burned at one time and a house also. Later the buildings were moved to higher ground where the hundred-year-old house still stands on what is now the Wesley Platte farmstead.

The Plattes spent the last years of their lives in Redfield. Mr. Platte died March 2, 1918, at the age of 79 years, and Mrs. Platte on June 11, 1923, at the age of 77 years. Both are buried in Greenlawn Cemetery.

ERWIN T. PRICE

Erwin T. Price was born April, 1890, a son of Willis F. and Annie M. Price. Willis Price and his three brothers had come from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and took land in Garfield Township. His parents had come directly from Wales. Mrs. Annie M. Price at the age of three years had come with her parents, the Reverend George and Jane Harding, and their three sons, Samuel, George Jr., and William, and sister Katherine, from England to Pennsylvania. They lived there for a short time, and then moved to northeastern Iowa, and in 1882 to Garfield Township in Dakota Territory.

Five children were born to the Prices: Bertha, George, Lula, and Ella. Willis Price died at the age of 37 years and Annie Price at the age of 43 years. Their daughter Bertha died at age 29 and George at 69.

In 1913 at the age of 23 years, Erwin Price married Emma Guise who had come to Garfield Township with her parents in 1907. They have four daughters.

In recent years Erwin Price was Township Assessor for eighteen years, and also worked on the Government Farm Program.

THE W. P. PRICE FAMILY

W. P. Price was born at Concord, Ohio, April 14, 1846, and moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1854. At the age of sixteen years he enlisted in the Union Army and served throughout the Civil War. He married Angeline Belknap, on November 15, 1868. They lived at Cedar Rapids until March, 1887, when they moved to Tulare, Spink County, Dakota Territory.

While they were in Iowa, nine children were born. The oldest, Edward, died in infancy, and the other eight children, with their parents, moved to South Dakota. They were as follows: Sarah A. Price, Burten J. Price, Clyde M. Price, Ira M. Price, Ida R. Price, Asa W. Price, and T. Arthur Price. Grace Price and Margaret E. Price were born in South Dakota. Margaret also died in infancy.

Only two of the family are now living: Blanche M. Harding of Canby, Minnesota, and T. Arthur Price, of Lead, South Dakota. Blanche M. Harding is 81 years of age; T. Arthur Price is 74 years of age.

W. P. Price moved to Tulare, South Dakota, in March, 1887, and filed on a tree-claim in Section 21, Garfield Township, Spink County, where he lived until his death, on March 15, 1911.

While he lived in South Dakota, he was always interested in state politics. He was elected to serve two terms in the State Legislature, the first in 1907, and again in 1909, both in the House of Representatives. He was always generous and willing to help anyone in need of help, either financially or legally, and he made friends wherever he went.

January 14, 1961

T. Arthur Price,
312 W. McClellan St.,
Lead, South Dakota

JAMES BARLOW REDFIELD

James Barlow Redfield, for whom the town of Redfield was named, had no part in its founding, other than his connection with the railroad running through the then infant prairie town.

He was born September 25, 1825. His ancestors had come to this country in 1640 and had settled in Massachusetts.

In 1849, after graduating from Union College in Schenectady, New York he started his sixty-six year railroad career on what was then known as the Chicago, St. Paul & Fond du Lac Railway. He was one of the incorporators of the Dakota Central Railway and was a member of its first Board.

From June 7, 1857 to April 30, 1910, he was an auditor for the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company.

He was retired at the age of eighty-four years, on a pension, but he continued to work in special service, until two weeks before his death. His long service to the railroad was an honor given to few men. Acknowledged as one of the oldest and most valued officers of the Chicago, Northwestern Railway Company, he died December 19, 1915, at the age of ninety years.

EARLY DAY HISTORY OF THE REED AND PRITCHARD FAMILIES OF ATHOL

In the year of 1882 John Pritchard came from Utica, Minnesota, to the Dakota Territory to rebuild the fortune he had lost in the depression following the Civil War. He was in his early fifties, a native of Wales, a sailor by profession. He filed a claim in central Dakota Territory after taking what was called "Squatter's rights." He built a small shanty and made a few pieces of furniture to show Uncle Sam that he intended to stay. He made his formal entry at the Government Land Office in Watertown. Then he returned to his farm in Minnesota to put in his crop, but, in order to hold his claim he must establish a residence by living on it for six months, so in May of 1883 his wife, Mary, and his seven year old daughter, Edith, and his six weeks old daughter, Edna, came to Dakota Territory to hold the claim.

Edith, the late Mrs. Edith Reed, is the mother of John Reed and Mrs. Leo Galvin of Athol, South Dakota.

When the family arrived in Athol they were met by a genial Irish gentleman named Keegan, who managed a hotel. The Keegan House, then an unfinished frame building of ten sleeping rooms on the second floor and kitchen, dining room and office on the first floor. The following morning, after sleeping in a bare unfurnished room on pillows and mattress made of spicy-smelling prairie hay, Mary hired Mr. Keegan's son, Charlie to drive her to the claim twelve miles away. It was a wonderful ride for Edith, miles and miles of thick waving grass, a faint wagon track to follow, and frequent fording of the Nixon river, better known as Snake creek, by driving through the shallowest place. She had inherited her love for the water from her father, and was not frightened, but Mary, the mother, was terrified.

It was late in the afternoon when they reached the shanty, but it was not the neat, securely locked, furnitured shanty John had left a short time ago. The door stood wide open, the furniture, dishes and bedding he had hidden under a pile of hay were gone, only a small stove remained. Mary lost her courage for a minute and wept, but the kind boy helped her with her trunk and provisions. He broke up boxes for the stove and made a latch for the door from a harness line. He begged Mary t oreturn to Athol with him, but she refused and immediately started to make a home by making a bed for tiny Edna in a packing box. They were joined by the rest of the Pritchard family after the Minnesota harvest in the fall.

Since Edith lost her mother when she was twelve years old, she went to Ortonville, Minnesota, to live with her grandmother Leet and later married James E. Reed, whom she had known as a child in Dakota. They came back to Dakota in 1892. Six children were born of this union, Mary, Mrs. James Humphrey, of Burbank, California; Laura, Mrs. Floyd Collins of Rapid City, South Dakota; James E. Reed, of Cambria, Wisconsin; John and Esther, of Athol, South Dakota; and Edith, Mrs. Larry Martin, of Houston, Texas.

Mrs. Edith Reed died in 1950.

Mr. James Reed had come to Dakota Territory in 1882 from Cresco. Iowa, at the age of nineteen years, with his father Louis G. and his brother, Henry. He died in 1914. Their homestead is ten miles northwest of Athol, South Dakota.

MR. AND MRS. OTTO REHNKE

Otto Rehnke was born in Germany, but came to the United States to make his home, locating in Minnesota. In 1879 he took a claim near Crandon, Dakota Territory, built a sod house on his land and then returned to Minnesota. For the next few years he came to Dakota Territory each summer to live a few weeks in his sod house and till his land. He then hauled lumber from Watertown and built a barn.

In the spring of 1882 he married and brought his wife to live with him on his Dakota claim. They made their home in a part of the barn until he built a new house. When this house was completed, it became the first gathering place for the prayer services held in the community. Later a schoolhouse was built one and one-fourth miles south of the Rehnke home. Here the Crandon Settlement Methodist Church was organized, a church that continues to hold services.

Mrs. Rehnke acted as practical nurse for the country doctor, Dr. Tonkin, who lived a few miles from their home. The Rehnke home epitomized pioneer hospitality for it was the stopping place for travelers who wanted a cold drink of water or a cup of coffee. Mr. and Mrs. Rehnke always took time to help their neighbors.

ELI REYNOLDS

Eli Reynolds was born in Canada in 1826, was married in 1851, and came to the United States in 1860. He lived in Michigan and Illinois, and then moved to New York where he joined the army in 1862. He served in the 11th New York Cavalry under McClellan in the capture of New Orleans, and was with Sherman in his March to the Sea.

However, most of his service was in hunting guerillas. He was taken ill from exposure and never fully recovered from the effects of it.

He came to Spink County, Dakota Territory, in 1882. Mrs. Reynolds was the first white woman to locate in Beotia Township. Their first home was a house and barn combined, and in this house was held the first Church and Sunday School services in the township. They later affiliated with the Methodist Church in Conde.

PIONEER LIFE OF THE RHOADES FAMILY

Compiled by Harry A. Rhoades — 1957

A farm home in LaPorte County, Indiana had been the property of the Rhoades family until about 1876. My father, George Rhoades, was the youngest of six children. He married Alice Burnett on April 22, 1875, and they lived on this old homestead for a few years. Here I was born January 4, 1878. My brother, Earle, was born June 9, 1876, at Avery, Michigan.

When I was two or three years old, we moved to Avery, across the line in Michigan, where we lived until 1882. Here my father worked in a sawmill and at his mason's trade. This was a very pleasant location near Lake Michigan, in the heart of the fruit country.

About this time, the lure of the west with its promise of free land and a chance for adventure, became too strong to resist, so my father, some relatives and neighbors, decided to try their luck in this new land of Dakota about which they had heard so much and knew so little.

This group joined the ever increasing caravan of pioneers who came to Dakota in the early 80's. My father's sister, Mary, and her husband, Irving Meade, also came and settled about ten miles west of Athol in Faulk County. Their son, George, married Belle Babcock and they made their home in Faulk County. Their daughter, Anna, married Fremont Ayers and they lived in Ashton.

Some of our neighbors from Michigan who came with us were Harry, William, and Chester Scott. Harry Scott settled near our claim but Will and Chester (Chet) Scott located in the hills north of Clark. The mother of these men also came to this new land and lived with her son Harry. She was a quaint old lady with a pronounced English accent, brought over from the old country.

Too much credit can hardly be given to these hardy pioneers for their efforts, despite hardships and privations, to successfully establish the foundations for the great state of which we are so proud.

The first contingent from our neighborhood in Michigan consisted of men, and their complete families in some instances. The women and children who remained at home came the following year in 1883. My mother, brother, and I, came with this later contingent. We landed at Doland where my father met us, and were taken to the Oldfield claim north of Doland, where my father had stayed during the winter of 1882-83. During this time he had built a house, or shanty of boards, and covered it to the eaves with sod. We also had a surface well. This was our new home.

I was too young then, five years old, to fully appreciate all of the hardships and privations that we had to endure in this new country. For fuel our supply was largely "buffalo chips" and twisted withes of hay or anything else that we could find that would burn. We bought milk and butter from a neighbor, going after it, but as we had no means of transportation it was quite a task to get it. Our groceries came from Doland or Raymond.

There were no game laws in those days, so we had some ducks and geese in season, and quite often prairie chicken in and out of season. Often we ate rabbits and sometimes antelope or deer.

During one winter I recall that we ground our meager supply of flour in an old coffee mill. We boys often gathered buffalo bones from the many skeletons that littered the prairies. These we sold in town for eight dollars a ton. It took an immense pile of those dried bones to make a ton. Our farming operations consisted of plowing about ten acres with oxen and planting it to wheat, turnips, and potatoes. We had some chickens and turkeys too.

To make a community of farmers out of a heterogeneous crowd of people from as many different walks of life, was not so simple, yet it was done somewhat successfully, partly because they were willing to learn from each other, and many of them were young and energetic. Nearly all were the best of neighbors, willing to exchange work, or loan farming tools to each other. The spirit of the West prevailed, and all were anxious to make newcomers happy and comfortable. Quite often when on the road and meeting a stranger or newcomer, both would stop, ask the name of each other, where they lived, then each would invite the other to get better acquainted.

No. it was not all hardship and grief. There were not many parties, yet neighbors often got together evenings or on Sundays to visit and while away the time. My folks often walked a mile to Harry Scott's, our friend and neighbor, who came with us from Michigan. They spent the evening visiting and exchanging news from "back East." Many times I recall we visited at the Charley Dettrich home where the evening was usually spent playing cards. The standard game in those days was euchre.

In the spring and fall several loads of neighbors and friends would drive up into the hills north of Clark, and hunt geese and ducks. This range of hills in Clark County, with a good supply of lakes, was a natural flyway for migratory fowl and was always a popular hunting ground for water fowl. There were many deer, antelope, and wolves in these hills, too. Antelope and wolves were often seen in our neighborhood but very seldom were deer seen on the open prairie. The wolves were large gray wolves usually found in packs. They made the night hideous when a pack would sit on their haunches with heads straight up and howl around a lonesome claim shanty. If the homesteader would pick up his gun and open the door carefully to see how many he could get at one shot, he found that there were none within range. Yet he would no sooner sit down to read or write a letter back home, but his entertainers were back to sing the next verse.

It was on one of these hunting excursions into the Clark hills that we found the skeleton of a buffalo which had been shot with a steel pointed arrow. The steel point was about six inches long and had penetrated to the spinal cord. This arrow point and bone can be seen in the Spink County Historical Collection.

Hunting was not merely a sport but a means of gathering necessary food. I have seen children open their lunch pails at school to find sandwiches of blackbird, plover, or meadowlark meat.

The primitive dwelling of the pioneer in Dakota was not always a sod house although there were many of them and even they were not always alike. Some sod houses were made of two tiers of sod, making the wall about two feet thick. Across the top, supports covered with boards supported a layer of sod on the roof. In some of these, where there was no lumber to be had, the ground was the floor which might be covered partly or wholly with carpet or rugs. This shanty usually had about two windows and one door. This was a typical sod shanty and with all its shortcomings and inconveniences, it was warm and not subject to drafts.

Another form of sod house was a frame building of rough boards and sodded up to the eaves. These usually had a single roof. Some of them were finished with lath and plaster. All plaster in those days was made from lime which had to be slacked and mixed with the proper amount of sifted sand. Cement was an unknown quantity. My home on the claim was this kind of house. Our barn was all sod and covered with hay as we had no straw.

There were in our neighborhood quite a few very nice homes, at any rate they were considered so at that time. One of these was owned by Charley Winchell which was later owned by Ed Remily.

Our family and neighbors who came from the same area in Indiana and Michigan filled the vacant spaces in our emigrant cars with lumber or posts because lumber was so cheap and plentiful there. They found plenty of use for this on arriving in Dakota.

The matter of water was not too bad, though, sometimes a little guessing or water witching was necessary to locate the place where the well should be dug. There were no artesian wells on the farms. Much of the surface well water was very good, though now and then it would have a salty taste. The old-fashioned pulley and rope with a bucket on each end of the rope was the standard equipment. A few had pumps and sometimes a windmill.

In a short time ox-teams gradually disappeared and horses became the motive power on the farm. In the neighborhood where we settled near Turton, many of the settlers were French, having come from Illinois. Some of these were Barrie, Bourassa, DesLauriers, Ouellette, Labrie, Fortin and Mannie. Other settlers were Lew Blaisdell, Homer Blaisdell, Harry Scott, Charles Winchell, Charles Detterich, John Mahan, John and Will Understalk, Oldfields, Klapperich, and my grandparents Albert and Margaret Burnett.

I began my education in a country school in our neighborhood. I recall we had to walk a mile to this typical country schoolhouse. Everything was primitive with no conveniences. There were blackboards, a stove, double desks, a water pail and dipper. We had no tablets, but we did have a little blank paper which was to be used very sparingly. Nearly all seat work was done on a slate. For writing, we used copy books where we copied the sentence at the top of the page several times.

There was a farmhouse near the school where we could get water. This house belonged to John and Will Understalk and their sister. John was a member of the school board and often came to visit school. The teacher, John James, usually called on him for a few remarks. The French pupils were Levi, Joe and Ambrose Mannie, Albena and Frank DesLauriers, Fred, Victor, Rose and Caroline Bourassa, and four boys from the Ouellette family. Three others were: Frank Blaisdell, Earle Rhoades, and I.

After about three years on the farm we came to Ashton. It was a prosperous bustling pioneer town with three hotels, three or four general stores, a jewelry store, meat market, harness shop, drug store, bank, photograph gallery, two blacksmith shops, two livery stables, lumber yards, a flour mill, three elevators, two coal dealers, three or four lawyers, carpenters, painters, masons, and three doctors, and two churches.

This was the period just after the unpleasant experience often spoken of as the county seat war. The new courthouse had been built and some stores were doing business in temporary buildings in the street, while erecting permanent buildings. Water was supplied by an artesian well owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad. The standard sources of heating and lighting were the coal stove and the kerosene lamp.

We settled in the south part of town, in what was called the addition. My maternal grandparents came with us and lived in a house next to ours. My father secured work in the flour mill and he also did some mason work. This was our home for four or five years. Then we bought a house in the south part of Ashton and moved it to Main Street in the block east of the courthouse, which by now, was called the Opera House. Here my parents lived until my father died in 1916.

On coming to Ashton I entered school and Ella Hawkins was my first teacher. I still have a perfect attendance certificate from her dated 1887. My next teacher was Laura Foster, and after finishing the work in her room I went to the upper room, and again went to school with Ella Hawkins as my teacher. Next we had a young man named A. H. Avery, and under his guidance Ashton had a high-school with a two-year course, graduating its first class in 1894. The members of this class were Clare Bullen, Henry Perriton, Earle Rhoades, Edith Isenhour and May Boyer.

The class of 1895 included Susie Roberts, Frank Weiland, Frank Olten and I. At this time, two of these nine schoolmates still survive. They are Earle Rhoades of Altadena, California, and I.

It was while I was in the grades that the blizzard of January 12, 1888 occurred. It was a warm pleasant morning and many pupils came to school without the usual winter wraps. Before the morning recess, the storm had struck and the hall was fast filling with anxious parents coming after their children. My father was there and, as our trip home was southeast, we had the storm at our backs. We reached home all right, but when we took off our overcoats we could stand them up, they were so full of snow and ice. All pupils reached home safely, a Mr. Osman east of Ashton was frozen to death in the storm; also Miss Bessie Stansfield who was teaching the Percival school south of Northville failed to reach the Percival house a few rods southeast of the school house, and was found the next morning only a short distance from the door of the farmhouse. My wife, who was then Hattie Percival, remembers the eventful incident though she was only four years old.

In 1892 when I was a lad of fourteen I did my first work as a farm hand. In the spring I worked for Will Higbee and in harvest I worked on a header box for John Shields on the Bert Moulton farm northwest of Ashton. In succeeding years I worked for H. E. Thissell, four miles north of Ashton on Highway 281 where the roadside park now stands. Following my school days I worked for a time for Charles Keegan who operated a livery barn. At this work I was driver for traveling men and aside from general work of caring for the horses and buggies I worked with my father in his mason work and painting.

During my teenage years we boys had a great deal of fun with Indians who came through and nearly always camped at Ashton or along the river east of Ashton on their way to and from the Sisseton and Sioux reservations. We traded shiny trinkets for bows and arrows, or moccasins. If we could find a stray or strange dog we would feed him well for a fat dog would bring a real bargain. Most of our business was done with the boys who would talk to us while the 'bucks' as we called them, would only grunt.

Another summer treat was the herds of wild bronchos which were driven through the country making stops at different towns. These bronchos were sold to farmers or anyone who was interested. It was a treat to see the cowboys lasso those wild horses, throw them to the ground, put a halter on them, and deliver them to the buyers. Sometimes the cowboy would lasso one, saddle and bridle him, then ride him. Many times he failed to ride him very far. Many farmers bought and used these horses on farm machinery. They usually proved to be very good farm animals.

From a boy of seven or eight until I was married December 30, 1903, my home was in Ashton. My boyhood and teenage years were not unlike those of many other boys with nothing sensational or unusual happening. We boys made good use of the James River about a half mile from town. In summer we spent many happy hours swimming and fishing in this river. Many picnics and county gatherings were held in Stanley Hall's grove south of Ashton where Snake Creek empties into the James River. Another favorite gathering place was near the site of Clyde Mill in Jeff Lower's grove. More extensive gatherings were often held at Armadale northeast of Ashton. A considerable amount of Indian history centers around this island.

Once I recall that Chief Drifting Goose and his tribe were invited to Armadale for a Fourth of July celebration, and he accepted as this region and south of the island was his old habitat, so he was glad to come. He and his tribe camped west of Ashton over night on his trip to Armadale. Some of the business men and others persuaded him to give a war dance or grass dance. I attended this affair and enjoyed it very much. There were a few in town who did not sleep well that night worrying about what might happen with a tribe of Indians in war paint celebrating a war dance.

At Armadale, Chief Drifting Goose made a speech, through an interpreter, and in it he said that he had seen the river so high that the island was covered with water nearly up to the tree tops. Many doubted this and felt that the old chief was exaggerating or trying to make a colorful picture. After the winter of 1896-97, they changed their minds and gave the old Indian full credit for his claims.

The young people of the gay nineties were just as active and had just as much wholesome fun as the young people of today, but some of it was different. In summer and at school we played baseball a great deal, and Ashton developed some noted players. Among these was Charley Phillippi who became a star pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates. In winter we had club dances and many skating parties and sleigh rides.

About the turn of the century basketball became quite popular, yet at first it was rather a girls' game. A picture of the Ashton girls' basketball team of that time still hangs on the wall in the hall of the Ashton High School today.

I have many fond memories and no regrets for having lived my teenage years in the gay nineties.

Preparation for teaching in those days was more primitive and quite different from what it is today, however, many good teachers developed even then. Each summer a Teachers' Institute or short Summer School was held in Redfield and quite a number usually attended these sessions. One summer there were about twelve of us from Ashton who commuted between these two towns daily on our bicycles. At the conclusion of these sessions examinations for teachers' certificates were held. I received my first teacher's certificate in 1896. I had no serious thought of becoming a teacher at that time. In the fall of that year, Mr. Howie who lived about sixteen miles northeast of Ashton came to see if I would come and teach their school, and I accepted.

If you will recall in 1896 snow fell on the twenty-eighth of October and stayed until April 1, 1897. The average depth was at least three feet. This school was known as the Waller school and I was lucky to find board and room at the Charles Housman farm a short distance from the school. He loaned me a team and sled so I could drive home each Friday evening returning Sunday afternoon. In the spring, I taught a short term north of Doland in the Whited neighborhood.

My next school was on the James River north of Ashton in the Sparling neighborhood. In 1898 I taught the Percival school south of Northville in Gair School District. I had a large school with quite a few advanced pupils. Although I did not know it at the time, I was teaching my future wife, Hattie Percival, whom I married five years later. I next taught the Hoellein school northwest of Athol, and in this locality were the families of Freeman Young, Scott Brant, Reuben Lynde, Schilter and Hoelleins. My next move was to the Jefferson School now called Monroe in north Aberdeen, where I taught for two years.

Omitting details, I can report that I taught six years in Turton, eleven years in Mansfield, thirteen years in Athol, three years in Chelsea, one year in Mellette, and eight years in Ashton. I retired in 1955. In all, my teaching experience lasted fifty-nine years. My college work was taken at Northern State Teachers' College, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

In the early days, teaching country schools was a unique experience, in many ways.

I taught several schools for $30.00 per month. Board was usually 50c a day, which took about $10.00, leaving $20.00, or one dollar a day, clear, so the year's work would show a profit of $180.00. In the Percival school I was paid $30.00 a month for the fall and spring, and $25.00 during the winter. This was done because a man could work on a farm for thirty dollars and room and board, so the school board tried to make teaching more attractive. Some teachers' contracts often had in them a provision that the teacher must spend two or three weekends each month in the school neighborhood.

Years ago when Tom Crisman was County Superintendent he did tell me of a school northwest of Athol that was offering $35.00 per month for a teacher. I made a non-stop flight on my bicycle to see that board. The trip was successful and I contracted for the school. When I was given my first warrant I was told that they had no money and I would have to sell the warrants. There seemed to be no market for such paper but I found a man with a speculative mind who would buy them at 10% discount, and my salary raise vanished.

After more than a half century of work and association with the boys and girls of these communities, it is a great sense of satisfaction to feel that one has had a useful part in shaping their lives and aspirations. One learns to love children even though, sometimes, you must disapprove of what they do. Of the many hundreds of pupils that I have taught, some have been successful in their chosen vocations and only a very few have been law breakers. In my long tenure of teaching, I have taught quite a number of parents and their children, some grandparents and grandchildren, and quite a list of husbands and wives.

A very pleasant climax to my career was a homecoming open house given in my honor by the Ashton community in June, 1955 when I retired. Here I met about one hundred eighty friends, former students, and well-wishers. Four pupils from my first school were present. They were Gene and Harry Waller, and Ray and Robert Howie.

I have always worked in the Church and Sunday School, and I am a member of the Athol Congregational Church. I am a member of the Masonic order which I enjoy very much. During the past twenty years, I have been District Master of District No. 14 which serves eight lodges including Redfield, Tulare, Ashton, Brentford, Mellette, Northville, Cresbard, and Faulkton.

For the last two years I have been interested and active in the organization and promotion of the Spink County Historical Society of which I am a Trustee.

JOHN T. ROBERTS.

John T. Roberts, with his son John and daughter, Jennie came from Farmer City, Illinois to Dakota Territory in the spring of 1882. During the summer and fall they built a house, a barn, and dug a well on the father's claim. They also built claim shacks on John's and Jennie's land. With a walking plow they broke ten acres on each of the three claims. The rest of the family joined them in December. There were twelve children in all.

A daughter, Mary and her husband, John Mabary, took a claim two miles south of Turton. There they built the large house that is now used as the Catholic school in the town of Turton. Another son, Ebenezer, when he was old enough, took a claim one-half mile north of Turton. Father Roberts also had a tree claim north of Turton. Later he traded this to Jennie for her claim, located near his.

Wm. Kelsey and Doctor Reed, one of the first doctors in Ashton, came with the Roberts family from Farmer City. Kelsey's claim was north of John's. He had a drug store in Ashton for years and was "burned out" twice.

Today the only member left of this large family is William Roberts of Ashton, and the original Roberts claim is owned by a member of the third generation, Leslie Roberts.

REVEREND WILLIAM ROWBOTHAM.

1816-1902

William Rowbotham was born in Kent, England, educated in New York State, where he married Hannah Harger. He moved westward to Wisconsin and became a member of the Wisconsin Methodist Episcopal Conference, when pastors served only two years on a charge. A few of the places he served were: Omro, Winneconne, Ripon and Pardeeville.

To this union were born the following children: Emma Showers; Elizabeth Karr (lived in Ashton 1885 to 1889); May Bird (one of the first to be buried in the Mellette Cemetery; Margaret Holcomb; Frances Greenfield; Will Rowbotham; and Nellie Evans Walters.

In 1885 Reverend and Mrs. Rowbotham came to Dakota Territory, living about a year in Athol before locating on a farm southeast of Mellette; three of their daughters were already here; Reverend Rowbotham had retired, and his wife's health was failing, a victim of crippling arthritis. He served various country charges in schoolhouses, on a volunteer basis, perhaps longer at School No. 1 than at any other.

After his wife's death in the early Nineties, he made his home with his daughters, finally going to Huron with Margaret in 1899. A reception was held in his honor in Mellette when he celebrated his eightieth birthday in the winter of 1897-98. A few years later, he broke his hip in a train accident as he was returning from a visit at his grand-daughter's, Mrs. J. G. Johns, in Bowden, North Dakota. He never fully recovered, and died in Huron in 1902.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK SCHALKLE.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schalkle were both pioneers of Dakota Territory and were among the first settlers of Redfield.

From childhood their lives were closely interwoven. Bertha A. Hillard, daughter of Agnes and Charles Hillard, had come in 1883 from Illinois with her parents to Dakota Territory, and Frank O. Schalkle came in 1884 from the same area in Illinois. Both attended the Redfield schools. On June 15, 1897 they were married. Reverend Basford performed the ceremony. Two children, a son, Raymond, and a daughter Daisy Maye, were born to them.

Throughout their lives, both were active in community affairs in Redfield. Mrs. Schalkle was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church, and served it faithfully through the years. As a sales lady she worked for the Greenman Store, the Arnett Store, Hopkins Bazaar, the J. Ray Cole store and the Schwartz Company. Being musical, she helped promote the Community Concert organization in the city. She was Matron of the Eastern Star, President of the American Legion Auxiliary, and President of the Women's Relief Corps. She died in 1957.

Frank O. Schalkle, son of Clara Myers Schalkle and Joseph A. Schalkle, worked for the Wells Fargo Express Company, also the Van Dusen Elevator Company, and in 1914 he purchased the Lindrooth Photograph Studio and operated it until his retirement.

He was a Charter Member of the Kiwanis Club of Redfield, member of the first Volunteer Fire Department and base drummer in the Redfield Band. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge.

His son, Raymond Schalkle, is a resident of Redfield, and his daughter Daisy Maye Walters is a resident of Laramie, Wyoming.

JOSEPH SCHALKLE.

Joseph Schalkle, a native of Germany, came to the United States in

1855 and located at Morris, Illinois. In 1862 he moved to Ottowa, Illinois, where he married Clara Myers, a sister of the Myers brothers who pioneered in Redfield.

The Schalkles moved to Gilman, Illinois and in 1879 to Spink County, Dakota Territory, and homesteaded on land southeast of Redfield. Here he lived in a sod shanty while he planted his first crops and worked to improve his holdings.

In 1884 Mr. Schalkle's wife and family of three sons and two daughters joined him in Dakota Territory.

He then hauled lumber by ox team from Watertown, and built the large home that still stands on the outskirts of Redfield to the south. For many years this home was used as a polling place for Redfield Township.

Mr. Schalkle was a charter member of the I.O.O.F. in 1860 at Ottowa, Illinois. Later he transferred his membership to the Redfield Lodge.

He died in November, 1908 at his homestead, and Mrs. Schalkle died in 1924.

GUSTAV SCHONE.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schone left their native Germany, came to America and settled near Harrison, Wisconsin, where Gustav was born in 1874. In the fall of 1879, Louis Schone, with his two older sons, William and Ernest, came to Dakota Territory and filed on land three and a half miles south of Frankfort. After building a sod shanty on each of the three claims, they returned to their home in Wisconsin. The following spring, the three families, with their household goods, came by train to Watertown. From there, they made the sixty mile journey to their homesteads by ox-cart, a trip which took nearly three weeks, as they had to stop often to rest and water their oxen. This watering was done from a barrel which they carried for that purpose. When the barrel was empty, they refilled it along the way.

When Gustav was old enough he used the oxen to do his father's plowing. He also helped cradle and flail the wheat by hand, until they were able to thresh the grain by machine drawn by horses.

Gustav obtained his elementary education at the Hoy School, located a mile from his home, to which he walked each day. Later he walked three and a half miles to the high school in Frankfort. He attended College in Redfield and later in Brookings where he studied electrical engineering.

After college, he returned to help his father on the farm. In 1902, he married Anna Ahlman, and moved to a farm of his own south of Frankfort.

In 1904 he helped build the first light plant in Redfield. After its completion, he managed the plant for several years, and made Redfield his home. In 1912, he returned to Frankfort and started a garage in what was then known as "The Old School House". Three years later he purchased the building he now occupies and moved his garage business there. Now, forty-six years later, he and his wife, Clara, operate a general store in that building.

MRS. JOHN SCHROEDER.

Lizzie Harms Schroeder was born January 16, 1883 in Belmont Township. Her father Henry Harms and her mother, Elise Piemann, both natives of Hanover, Germany, had come with their respective parents to America and settled in Illinois. After their marriage in 1878 Mr. and Mrs. Harms moved to Iowa and in 1882 came to Dakota Territory where they homesteaded in Belmont Township. They lived with the John Blume family until their own home was completed.

This house, similar to some of the European homes, was a combination of barn and house constructed under one roof with lumber hauled from Crandon. The barn was on the north side to shield the house from the bitter winter winds. The house consisted of one small room and bedroom downstairs and two upstairs bedrooms. In summer they cooked in the summer house or shed and brought the food to the house.

On January 16, 1883 Lizzie was born in this newly completed home and during the blizzard of January 12, 1888 another baby girl was born to Mrs. Harms. As a child Lizzie was kept busy herding the cattle, picking rocks from the fields which her father had broken, and with a span of mules and a walking plow picking potato bugs, and knitting her own stockings and mittens.

At six years of age she started to the country school a mile from her home. Her first teacher was Frank McNeill. She attended three months. German parents did not care to have their children in school for they did not want them to learn the English language.

Sometimes Lizzie walked two and a half miles to Sunday School which was held in a nearby country school. She rarely went to town. If she needed shoes, her mother put a stick in the shoe to measure the size and then the new shoes were bought a little longer than the stick.

On October 14, 1902 Lizzie Harms married John Schroeder. Three children, Dora, Henry, and Alvina, who died from appendicitis when she was nine, were born to them. The Schroeders lived on the Schroeder homestead until they retired and moved to Redfield in 1929. Mr. Schroeder died in 1957.

AUGUST SCHULTZ.

August Schultz was born in Germany, and came to this country when he was twelve years of age, on a sail boat that took four months to cross the Atlantic Ocean. He lived in Michigan until he was a young man, and then came to Hitchcock, Dakota Territory, in an immigrant car, and then to Spink County, settling on Section 17, Township 114, Range 65, Buffalo Township.

Shortly after coming here, he married Anna Leese of Port Hope, Michigan. To this union, five children were born. Rosa, the oldest, died in 1912. The other children, four boys, are still living in Spink County.

Walter lives on the old homestead and is engaged in raising purebred Hereford cattle. He has one son and one daughter.

Fred is also farming. He has two sons and one daughter who live nearby.

Leo has retired from farming and lives in Redfield.

Otto has also retired and lives in Redfield. He has three sons, two of whom are farmers, and one son lives in Rapid City, South Dakota.

MR. AND MRS. CARL F. SCHULTZ.

Carl F. Schultz settled in Buffalo Township, Spink County, and came with his parents to Port Hope, Michigan, when he was five years of age. In 1882 their home was burned by a forest fire. They had heard about Dakota Territory being opened to settlers, so loaded a few belongings, including horses, a couple of cows, and a plow, into an immigrant car and came to Hitchcock, Dakota Territory, in 1883.

Carl, the youngest son, August, Gustav, and sister Emma and their mother, Hannah Schultz, also came in the immigrant car. The father had died previously.

Gustav and his mother built a stone house just across the county line in Hand County, ten miles west of Tulare, where he lived for a time. Then he married and moved to a farm five miles west of Huron, and later he moved to Huron where he lived for several years and died there at the age of 91.

Carl F. Schultz settled in Buffalo Township, Spink County, and took up a claim of his own on Turtle Creek, the SW¼ of Section 21, Township 114, Range 65. He married Mary Roeber, daughter of William Roeber, who lived in Lake Township. They were the first couple married in the townships of Lake and Buffalo.

Hannah Schultz, Carl's mother, lived with Carl and his family on the farm where he first settled. She usually wore a small colored shawl over her head, even in the house. She was very active and almost every day she would put on an old apron, gather up both bottom corners and pick up little odds and ends of wood, sticks, and cobs and bring them into the house and put them in the wood box for fuel. She was very saving and didn't want anyone else to peel the potatoes, as they wasted too much of them. She read her German Bible every day, and read to the family if they would listen. Many parts she would quote from memory. In the last few years of her life, she had one tooth remaining, and her daughter would ask why she didn't have it extracted, but she always replied: "No, as long as I can use it, I want to keep it". When she was ninety years old, she asked the family to write to an aunt in Idaho that she was eating well, feeling well and thought she might live to be one hundred. One evening when the children came home from school their mother said, "Well, your grandmother is gone". She had been ill for a few days and died at the age of 91 years.

Carl was a very quiet person who never seemed to be in a hurry. He usually got up early and worked until late at night, too late to suit his wife. She worried about him when he made the trip to Redfield to get twenty sacks of wheat ground into flour. Redfield was a distance of twenty-two miles and it took a team moving with a load at three miles an hour, fifteen hours to make the trip, in addition to the two hours allowed for the horses to eat and for Carl to rest and shop. So it meant that it took seventeen or eighteen hours to complete the trip. It was usually ten or twelve o'clock when he arrived home, and his wife would check at intervals, and she usually could tell by the sound of the wagon and his talking to his horses, that he was within a mile or so and would soon be home.

Carl F. Schultz (the writer's father), was loved by all of us. I don't know whether he ever held a church or public office of any kind. I believe he was a church trustee at one time. Only once can I remember that he slapped me. Mother usually did the reprimanding of the eight children when we needed it.

When my father was on his death-bed, many neighbors came over during the day or evening to visit. One night, neighbors stayed rather long and mother said to him, "I think it is about time for you to rest," but he answered "No, let the folks visit. What if it does shorten my life a day or so, but, I believe it will give me strength, to chat with our neighbors." He certainly took the attitude, "Oh, death, where is thy sting?". He had no fear of death, and even planned certain details for after his death.

My parents always saw to it that we went to church every Sunday. We went to an Evangelical Church about one mile east and three miles north. It took about an hour to drive that four miles by wagon, a spring wagon, and finally in 1907 my father bought a two-seated surrey which is now in the Redfield museum, in the basement. There was one place in the road where we feared getting stuck before the road was graded. Some of us would sometimes walk to make it easier for the horses part of the way.

On one occasion, a neighbor was buying a piece of land, and Father heard he was going to drive to Huron, forty-three miles distant, to borrow part of the money he needed for the purchase of the land, so to save him the trip, my father loaned him $400.00 or $500.00, all of our savings at the time. Father kept all of his cash in a box at home, and often would offer it to a neighbor when he needed it. He did the same with anything else he might have to loan or to give. One time a neighbor, with a large family, moved into our neighborhood, with very little to "do with." Father realized his difficulties and took him a load of hay for his cows and horses, and a brood sow, soon to have pigs, saying, "Forget the hay, but when you are through with the sow you can bring her back. I believe they raised eleven pigs from that sow.

At Father's funeral, an old man who lived a mile west of us, and was a preacher, asked if he might say a few words, but he really preached a wonderful sermon on how good a neighbor was Carl F. Schultz. My father died at an early age, 52 years, on October 23, 1917. I was only sixteen years old at the time, but his way of life has always had an influence on mine, and all the rest of the family.

After Father's death, my mother continued to live on the farm. My older brother, Albert Schultz, was married, and Herman had a farm of his own, so I kept the home farm going with the help of my mother and the sisters who were still at home, which was about all a boy of my age could do. Mother was with us on the farm until the girls were all married or in high school. She moved to Tulare when I married Lenore Creager in June, 1926. After the younger girls were married she sold her home in Tulare and spent her later years in the homes of her children, where she was always welcome. She died in December, 1955, at the age of 84 years. She was always kind and considerate, and helped her children all she could. She may have been a little more stern, applying her hand, or what not, when we needed it, but no one considered her unfair. At the time of her death, she had six children living, the oldest and youngest having preceded her, 24 grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren.

AUGUST SCHWICHTENBERG.

By Robert C. Schwichtenberg

In 1878 August Schwichtenberg, at the age of twelve years, came with his parents and six brothers and sisters from Pomeran, Germany and settled in Wisconsin.

In the spring of 1879 they joined a wagon train consisting of thirty-five wagons drawn by oxen and for forty-nine days traveled west across the prairies, until they came to South Shore, north of Watertown. They remained there two years but were flooded out each year, but Mr. Schwichtenberg, being a mason, obtained work for himself and his two older boys during that time.

In 1881 he and four other men took some of the boys, five wagons, some plows and tools and headed west again. They crossed the James River at Belcher's Ford, in Fisher's Grove, and took adjoining homesteads a mile or so west of Crandon. No surveys had been made, and there were no roads on the prairies, only trails, grass, and buffalo bones. The men gathered the bones and stacked them in piles as high as straw piles. Later, the bones were taken to Crandon and hauled away in gondola cars.

That summer the men broke sod and made sod shanties for each of the claims. Late in September the five men returned to South Shore and stayed there for the winter. In the Spring of 1882 they started west again but this time they took their entire families with them, and settled on their homesteads.

In 1883, August's father built a new home on his land, and being a mason by trade, he made the basement walls two feet thick. Mr. Schwichtenberg told of a prairie fire that burned the land around their shanty. The only way they could save themselves was to burn the land near their house before the prairie fire passed them. This they did, but were almost suffocated by the intense smoke.

An epidmeic of diphtheria spread over the neighborhood and took the lives of many of the children. Mrs. Herman Neitzel, sister of Mr. Schwichtenberg, lost three of her children in less than a week.

August Schwichtenberg's father died in the early Nineties and August married in 1893. Then came hard times and August lost the homestead. He rented it for six years and then bought it back again a few years later. August's wife died in 1901. Her three weeks old baby was then adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Petersmeyer of Tulare. His sister, Mrs. Neitzel, took his two year old daughter, and he himself kept his four and six year old sons. In 1906 he re-married. In 1917, owing to ill health, Mr. Schwichtenberg moved to Redfield.

During the hard times of the Thirties, Mr. Schwichtenberg again lost his homestead. In 1941 he was delighted to learn that his son, Robert, who had obtained a loan from the Federal Land Bank, had again purchased the homestead, which, with a few years exception, had been in the

Schwichtenberg family since 1881.

Mr. Schwichtenberg died April 23, 1946, but his son, Robert, born in 1896, still lives on the homestead.

MR. MILLARD SEAMAN.

When Millard Seaman died in January of 1958, he was Doland's oldest citizen; this, however, was only one of many achievements during the 91 years of his life.

A native Pennsylvanian, he came to Dakota Territory as a sixteen-year-old in 1893. Traveling with an emigrant train, he brought all of his possessions, a team of horses and a wagon, a plow, some grain for seed and feed, and a small trunk containing his personal belongings. After several delays due to high water, Seaman forded a river between Huron and Doland and was soon united with his brother and his mother, a midwife, who had homesteaded in Harrison Township near Doland.

Among the high points in the first years were the blizzard of 1888, and his marriage to Mattie Hart, in 1890. Seaman prospered as a farmer and was able to purchase his own farm. He continued to expand until he owned seven quarters of land in Harrison Township. In 1919 he moved from the farm to Doland and at this time he invested in ten quarters of land in Sully County.

In nearly forty years as a citizen of Doland, Seaman served the city in many capacities. He was Alderman for six years and Mayor for three terms. As a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, he was honored for twenty-five years of membership in this order.

Six of their nine children are still living: Philip, Onida, South Dakota; Walter, Omaha, Nebraska; Mrs. Dave (Laura) Witham, Tipton, Indiana; Mrs. Albert (Bernice) Kitterman, Doland; Mrs. Ed. (Lucy) Berg, Olympia, Washington; Mrs. Floyd (Alice) Cocking, San Diego, California.

BART L. SHERIDAN.

Bart L. Sheridan came from Wisconsin to Dakota Territory with the Thomas Young family in 1880 and homesteaded in Tetonka Township, on the Southwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 119, Range 63. Lorinda Young filed on the Northwest Quarter in the same section. They built a lumber shanty on the dividing line. After its completion, they were married and made the shanty their home. Later they built a larger house to replace the shanty, and lived there until 1908, when they retired and moved to Ashton, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Two daughters, Florence and Tella, and two sons, Robert and Jesse, were born to them.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF JOHN SIEBRECHT.

I, John Siebrecht, was born in a sod covered shanty north of Frankfort, on September 16, 1885, and have lived in Spink County all my life. I was one of ten children, and the fourth son of Ferdinand and Frederica Siebrecht. My five remaining brothers are still residents of this county.

I experienced many of the hardships of the early pioneers, such as gathering cow chips for fuel, burning twisted hay or tightly pressed straw in a boiler and turning it upside down on the stove. On one of these fuel gathering trips, my father lost his way in the big blizzard of 1888. Leading his team and traveling with the wind, he kept moving even though his hands and feet were numb, until he stumbled onto a farm owned by a Frenchman. Conversation proved to be difficult since he was German and neither could understand the other. Meanwhile, to keep us children warm, my mother put us to bed not knowing until the next morning whether my father was alive or dead.

My wife, the former Emma Lenth, whom I married in 1911 was also born and raised in Spink County.

We farmed for several years before moving to Redfield in 1928, where I worked with the State Highway Department. I later received a certificate of merit for twenty-five years of faithful service, during which time no vacations were granted. We have two daughters, Esther, now Mrs. G. M. Gregorson of Randolph, Minnesota and Wava, now Mrs. Carol Becker of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. We have four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

I am now retired and still live in Redfield. I hope to celebrate our Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary, this Centennial Year.

IRVIN SIMMONS.

Irvin Simmons was born in 1853. His education was common school, and he attended the University of Madison, Wisconsin. He took a pre-emption in LaPrairie Township, in December, 1881, and moved his family, consisting of a wife and one son, in March, 1882. He had built a shanty 14x16 ft., and his second son, Harvey, was the first white child born in this part of the territory. In 1883, he moved to his farm in Beotia Township. He served as Justice of the Peace, and on the Township board, and was on the school board for many years.

GEORGE H. SMALL.

George H. Small and his father, Henry S. Small, came to Spink County, from Winona, Minnesota, in the fall of 1879 and filed on claims on the east bank of the James River, three miles northeast of Ashton. They lived in a tent until the first of January, when they moved into their dugout on the bank of the James River. They were joined later by his mother and his younger brother, Joe.

George Small was born in Maine on April 6, 1853 but spent most of his early life in Winona, where he later was associated with his father in the grain business.

In 1882, George Small and Nels E. Nelson, whose claim adjoined the Smalls' on the north, across the river, built several of the first buildings in the town of Ashton; one building, later the Ed. Sparling home, north of the old City Hall, was the first schoolhouse in Ashton. George moved to Ashton where he bought a machine shop.

In 1887 he was married to Ida May Price, who in 1882 had come with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David B. Price, and her brother, T. W. Price, from central Illinois, to eastern Spink County. They settled on claims eight miles southwest of Conde. She clerked in a store in Ashton until her marriage.

In the early Nineties, Small and Ira Bowman started raising thoroughbred Shire draft horses and imported two stallions from Wales. The first one died two weeks after arriving in Ashton, so Bowman immediately left for Wales for the second one.

In 1894, Mr. and Mrs. Small and their daughter, Nellie, moved to the farm on which a frame house had taken the place of the dugout. In the spring of 1895, after five months work, Small and his crew finished drilling one of the first privately owned artesian wells in Spink County. The three-inch well was used for power as well as water. A mill was built and water power was used to grind stock feed, graham flour, and run a threshing machine. Water was piped to the house and Mrs. Small operated her washing machine, churn and ice-cream freezer by water power. With plenty of water, Mr. Small started an irrigation project and at one time had over one hundred acres of land under irrigation.

In 1901 the Small family, which now included a son, Robert, moved back to Ashton, and the next year they opened a hardware and furniture store, which included a harness and a plumbing shop. Following a fire in December, 1908, that destroyed the building, Small built a brick store and started again. That building is now the American Legion Hall. He later added a garage, which also houses an automobile agency. He operated the business until his death in a car-train accident on June 14, 1927.

Mrs. Small had died in 1917, following an operation, and his son Robert, one of the first victims of the 1918 flu epidemic, died October 6, 1918, in Rapid City, South Dakota, where he was a member of a company in the United States Army studying radio communications. His daughter Nellie, now Mrs. James B. Hill, lives at Central City, South Dakota.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN L. SMART.

John L. Smart was born in Dodgeville, Wisconsin on April 4, 1857. He was the youngest child of his English born parents, William and Rachel Smart. After finishing grade school he attended the Platteville Normal School from which he received a teacher's certificate and taught school for awhile. In 1880, he came to Dakota Territory and was favorably impressed with the country. He filed on land near Orient in Faulk County and then, enthusiastic, he returned to Wisconsin hoping that he could persuade his older brother, Will, to come back with him. However, when the two brothers returned they found the land filed on, had been "jumped."

Learning from friends that they could get land near what is now known as Tulare, they filed pre-emption claims three miles west of there and returned to Wisconsin to make preparations for a new life in Dakota. In 1882, they came back with an immigrant car and settled on Section 29, Range 64 in Tulare Township. They built a sod shanty 12x12 and a frame sodded barn. Their furniture was very meager and they brought only the bare necessities for farming. They lived in this sod shanty until they proved up on their pre-emption claim.

John had taken a homestead two and one-half miles west of Tulare, so he built a two room house on it, and they moved from the sod shanty to the small frame house. The original house, with two additions, is still standing and John's daughter Fanny (Mrs. Russell Fox) and her husband live in it.

In 1885 John married Anne Ball, a seventeen year old girl who had come to Dakota Territory in 1882 from Michigan with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ball. She was born in Ontario, Canada. Rev. O. S. Basford of Redfield officiated at the wedding. To this union seven children were born, all of whom are living; three of them still live in Spink County—Laura (Price) Bullock, Ruby (Pennington) Schultze, and Fanny Fox.

Will lived with his brother John and family until the fall of 1891, when he married Lillie Larson of Dodgeville, Wisconsin and they moved to their own home one mile north.

On a hill just northwest of the barn on the John Smart place were hundreds of arrowheads. Two children of the neighborhood wondered as they picked them up if an Indian battle had been fought there, or if the Indians had killed many buffalo on this hill. The latter thought was perhaps nearer the truth, as there was an old buffalo trail leading through the pasture just south of the hill, and many buffalo horns and buffalo chips were there.

The first country school in Tulare township was built on Section 29, and was known as the "Tulare West School". It was used until the year 1910, when it was abandoned and later sold. Tulare city had built a new four-room schoolhouse, so the old one-room school was used by the Tulare West school pupils and moved to a location two miles west of Tulare.

The Smarts, like all the old settlers, had many and varied experiences during the growth of their home community and state. The good years, the drought years, the deep snows and cold weather, the flood of the spring of 1897, and the blizzard of 1888. They lived on their farm west of Tulare until the spring of 1920, when they moved to Aberdeen. However, they still kept their land in Spink County, and were always keenly interested in the growth of Tulare and Spink County.

They both died in Redfield during the fall of 1942 while visiting at the home of their daughter, Ruby, and are both buried in the Tulare Cemetery.

W. R. SMART.

I, W. R. Smart, was born May 5, 1855 in Dodgeville, Wisconsin. My brother John and I left home September 8, 1882 in an immigrant car and arrived at Crandon, Dakota Territory, September 14.

John and I took separate pre-emptions, located on Section 29, Township 115, Range 64. We had brought a team of horses and a wagon with us from Wisconsin, and with them we hauled the lumber from our immigrant car to build the frames of our house and our shed. The house was 12x12 and built with two-by-fours. We broke the sod and took a foot board and cut it two feet long and laid it next to the sod and cut the sod the length of the board. We placed the sod, like brick, all around the shell of our house. This made the side walls air tight, but the cold entered through the ceiling and the poorly fitted door. Very little light entered through the windows because the walls were two feet thick.

It was cold in our shanty in winter. Some mornings the under side of our quilt on our bed was covered with frost. We had a stove in one corner of our room, a bed in another, and a homemade cupboard in another. We lived in this shanty until we "proved up" on our pre-emptions, then, as my brother had taken a homestead, we built a small house there and left our shanty.

Our nearest neighbor, J. E. Trezona, also came to Dakota Territory from Dodgeville, Wisconsin, and Stephens from Ridgeway, Wisconsin. In the spring of 1882 August and Charles Binger arrived from Poynet, Wisconsin, and took homesteads and tree claims near us; Mrs. Wiseman came from Wisconsin, with her four sons, and one daughter, and located on the Northwest Quarter of Section 27; Mr. Mason sold his quarter of land to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. The town of Tulare is now located on that land. Other early settlers near Tulare were: Nicholas Reed, John and Ralph Smith who lived where the Freye Brothers now live, and F. Frede. There were others, but I do not recall their names.

James Gage lived in Buffalo Township and James Boyd in Garfield Township.

I was married on September 11, 1891.

I now have retired and spend much of my time reading, and working in my garden.

MR. ELIJAH H. SMITH & MR. JOHN P. SMITH.

In the spring of 1882, Elijah H. and John P. Smith came to Dakota Territory from Bureau County, Illinois. They were brothers, and filed on adjoining homesteads in Beotia Township about four miles west of the present site of Conde. They returned to Illinois, but in September of the same year they came again to the Territory and, to comply with the law, each built a small house 14'x16' on his homestead.

They returned to Illinois that winter where John joined his wife, Viola, and small son, Lee. In February, 1883 Elijah married Isa Taylor and both couples journeyed back to Dakota in later spring. They were accompanied by their mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith and their sister Esther, who later filed on homesteads near by.

At this time, Mellette, about fifteen miles west, was the nearest market. The country around was wild and unimproved and only a few sod houses dotted the prairies. About half a mile west of these Smith homes was a large sod house owned by J. E. Barnes and J. F. Haley. In this building the first religious services of this community were held with John Blumhall as minister. These brothers, having been acquainted with farming in their boyhood home in Illinois, worked together in the early years in the Territory. Their first crops were corn and pumpkins. Later on, wheat was their principal crop, and the raising of livestock was another of their interests.

They were active in local and public affairs, both having served on school boards, township boards, and on the Board of Commissioners of Spink County. They helped organize and build the present Methodist Church in Conde. Both served as Sunday School superintendent and both sang in the Church choir.

In 1900, Mr. and Mrs. John Smith moved to Conde when the younger children attended school. The two older boys remained on the farm. Their seven children all grew up in the community and three of them, Lee and Earle of Conde, and Mrs. Raymond Ruch (Maria) of Sioux City, Iowa qualify as Territorial pioneers.

In Conde the Smiths continued to be active in community affairs. Mr. Smith served as Mayor of Conde several years, before he and Mrs. Smith moved to Alvin, Texas where two sons, Rolla and John Jr., were living. Mrs. Smith died November 18, 1942, and Mr. Smith May 7, 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Smith continued to live on their homestead until their deaths, Mr. Smith died in 1935, and Mrs. Smith in 1943.

Mrs. Elizabeth L. Smith who accompanied her sons Elijah and John to Dakota Territory in 1883 was a widow, her husband, James Miles Smith, having been killed in the battle of Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863. He was a member of Company B, 93rd Regiment, Illinois Volunteers Infantry. During his absence at the front Mrs. Smith did her best to keep up the farm work, keep her family of four small children together, and train them to be useful men and women. At that time Illinois was practically a new state and the family were pioneers. So when to her came the call of the great West, she again responded and again became a pioneer, filing on a quarter section of land in Beotia Township and living there until final proof was made. Later, she moved to Conde where she lived until her death in 1915. She was a charter member of the Methodist Church in Conde.

Her daughter, Esther, homesteaded on land also in Beotia Township. Later she married Seward Allen and in 1898 they moved to Portland, Oregon where their daughter, Miss Lora Allen, still lives.

The three quarters of land which were homsteaded by Mrs. Elizabeth Smith and her two sons are still owned and operated by sons or grandsons of those pioneers.

THE GEORGE G. SMITH FAMILY.

The writer is the youngest of the George Smith family, and was born in Spink County, Dakota Territory, March 14, 1886. He was the only child in the family born in Dakota. The other children were three boys and a girl all born in the state of Michigan.

The names in order of their birth were as follows: Judson G. Smith, Scott R. Smith, Lloyd L. Smith and Grace Daisy Smith. The writer's name is Julian C. Smith. All of the family are now deceased, with the exception of the writer.

Some of the matters I will relate will be hearsay as I am starting with the migration of the family from Michigan in 1882.

Like nearly everyone who came to the West in those days, the hunger for free land drew the Smiths from the thickly settled East to the sun-baked prairies of Dakota.

They detrained at Northville; (The Sioux City line of the Chicago & Milwaukee railroad had not yet been laid); and drove in a lumber wagon to the homestead where Father had settled and built a shack. (SW¼ of Sec. 11, Township 119. Range 62.)

I can imagine Mother's feelings. I know that she had no idea what she was going up against. The sixteen mile jaunt in that wagon, and the country itself with its lack of trees, and running water, flat as a board and endless in expanse, and with four children to take care of, she needed the faith that God plants in the breasts of its heroines.

Father's homestead was just one and one-half mile south of the "Old Rose Postoffice". Rose consisted of the postoffice, and an inland store or trading post. It was built upon the homestead of James H. Smith, my father's brother, who had come to Dakota a year earlier. The store became a general hangout for the entire countryside and it deserves some little attention in this narrative.

The design of the building was never changed. It was built originally, and Uncle Jim did not change it. The memory of that store stands out vividly in my mind, and I was about twelve years of age when I saw it last.

The entrance was on the north end, the building facing north and south. There were two counters—one on each side, running north and south. The postoffice department was to the left of the door as one entered. One faced a good pair of easy stairs leading directly up to the second story, which was cased off by a railing from the downstairs. A circular rack of buggy whips was at the foot of the stairs and a little to the left. The place was well equipped with boxes filled with sawdust to take care of the boys who chewed tobacco. The boys would sit and talk politics, and, while none of the Nation's problems were definitely settled there, nevertheless there were a lot of ideas advanced, and it passed the time while Uncle Jim or Aunt Lib sorted the mail.

Well, the George Smith family grew up and lived through famine, sickness, and dry years. We faced blizzards, and crop failures. There were times when we didn't get enough to eat. There wasn't any beneficent Government waiting with a handout. It was a case of sink or swim. Eggs were seven cents per dozen, at the store, and when we sold them we didn't get cash—we took it out in trade.

I remember the story of the blizzard in 1888. The Smith children were all of them at the schoolhouse when the storm struck. The teacher locked the door to keep any kids with a panic from getting outside, and kept the entire "gang" inside safe and sound. We lived one-half mile from the schoolhouse and my father was the first person to break through the deep drifts and get to the schoolhouse. He came in with a lantern and gave a hail " Is everybody here?", and then "Thank God".

The Smiths left the old farm about 1900. Father and Mother were getting old and none of the boys wanted to farm. The family moved to Aberdeen and the children all went to school. Jud became a dentist, Scott and Lloyd both engineers, Grace married a doctor, and the writer became a lawyer.

THE JAMES H. SMITH FAMILY.

The James H. Smith family lived near Brighton, Michigan in 1881. In addition to farming they owned and operated a grist mill, a lumber mill, and a cider mill. Both James and his wife, Elizabeth Lyon, whom he married in 1867, after his Army service in the Civil War, were active in church and community affairs.

He and his wife were now 39 and 38 years of age, and had a family of four sons, Bert, 12, and Howard 7, attended school. Sedgwick was 5, and Roy a baby born in May of that year. The family mourned a daughter, Dolly, only recently buried in a nearby cemetery.

It may have been the passing of the Homestead Law that influenced their decision; their boys would find it hard to acquire land in that thickly populated area. Too, his brothers, George and Charles, and his sister Mary and her husband, Cornelius Gregory, were planning to "go West". Perhaps it was the pioneer instinct inherited from his father, Isaac W. Smith, who brought his family from New York State in 1852. The fact remains, in the spring of 1881, James came by train to Watertown, Dakota Territory, and then traveled on foot across the miles of virgin prairie. He chose the Northwest Quarter of Section 15, Township 119, Range 62, LaPrairie Township, and a tree claim near the present town of Conde.

Mr. Smith made several trips from Brighton to his Dakota claim that summer. Supplies were shipped to Northville and then hauled by team and wagon the fifteen miles east to his claim and a vicinity that was to be known as Rose a year later. In that distance, there were two fords to be made, the Big Slough east of Northville, and the James River. Their buildings were made of poplar lumber from their mill.

In the early spring of 1882, the eldest son, Bert, now a boy of 13, was sent to Northville in an emigrant car. In his care were the families' pair of thoroughbred Hambletonians, Brownie and Roanie. Packed in the car were their personal belongings and a small supply of groceries and dry goods purchased in Chicago, with which to stock a small store. The rest of the family came by train to Aberdeen. The following morning they boarded a train for Mellette. This line was so newly operated that the ties were laid right on the prairie. The natural contours of the ground and the fact that there had been recent rains, provided an uneven road bed and the train lurched alarmingly. They crept along at about eight or ten miles an hour. Bert met them with the team and they drove to their new home. After many months of planning, and preparation, the family was together in a new and strange country.

On an adjoining section, Henry Smith built a home. This family was also from Brighton, Michigan, but the families were not related nor had they met previously.

The Henry Smiths had a daughter Ethel who had received her education in the East and had taught school there. As the settlers began to increase she realized the need of mail service. She applied to the United States Government for a postoffice and suggested the name "Rose," because of the many wild roses blooming on the prairie. The petition was granted, and she was appointed postmaster. On July 5, 1882 the Rose postoffice was opened in her home. She was well liked and was nicknamed, "Prairie Rose."

Dr. John Herman, who James Smith had contacted before leaving Michigan, arrived and built an office and home for his sister, Priscilla and himself just west of the Smith Store.

Mr. W. W. Dutton, a blacksmith, from Chicago, opened a shop and built a home for his family at Rose. At one time the population of Rose was nineteen. The community developed rapidly; people began to speak of "going to town," when they went to Rose.

The George and Charles Smith families, and the Gregorys had claims near by. It has been said that every quarter of land had a claim shanty on it.

To harvest the first crop, James bought a Lewis header from William Baldwin who shipped a number of them from the East. This grain was threshed with a horse-power machine. It did not have a self-feeder, or blower; these operations had to be done by men with pitchforks.

Two sons were born to James and Elizabeth at Rose: Paul, in 1884, and Sherman, in 1886.

The three older boys attended school two miles south of Rose. They drove a horse hitched to a small cart in the fall and spring; in winter they made a small sled.

The Rose Union Sunday School was held at this schoolhouse. There were times that they did not have a minister for church services, but the families kept a regular Sunday School. In times of necessity when there wasn't a minister, the Smiths held funeral services with Henry Smith reading the scripture and George and James singing the hymns.

In 1889 the Smiths built on the west side of the house a twenty foot by forty foot addition for a store. James put in a larger stock of groceries, ready-to-wear items, and a small hardware line. The supplies purchased from the Jewett Grocery, and the Trask Hardware Company were hauled from Aberdeen, a distance of about thirty miles. The older boys made the trip with their father so they could take three or four teams and wagons.

Sedgwick recalls that often on the return trip, late at night, they saw a phenomenon of the prairies, the "Jack-o-lanterns," or "Will-o-Wisps." They appeared as a glowing mass ball-shaped, that seemed to bob along on the ground or through the air. These frightened the horses (and the boys) and made driving difficult.

The old store Day Boook shows the following entries: eggs bought at fifteen cents a dozen; butter at twenty cents a pound; pitchfork, one dollar; handle for pitchfork, twenty cents; overalls could be purchased for seventy-five cents; cookies, two pounds for twenty-five cents: kerosene, twenty cents a gallon; canvas gloves, ten cents; socks, twenty cents; five hundred smokeless shells, two dollars and twenty-five cents. There was a three cent bounty on gophers so the boys snared the little creatures and brought their tails in for proof, and received their money.

On May 8, 1890, the postoffice was moved to the Smith Store, and James was appointed postmaster. Here it remained until it was discontinued October 31, 1905, when a rural route was started from Conde.

Rose served the pioneers as a social center. The large room over the store, cased off by a railing, was the scene of many gatherings. One pioneer recalls, "We danced up there and had a big time." James' violin, accompained by Sedgwick on the melodeon furnished the music. There were whistling matches too, until that activity was moved to the barn at Elizabeth's insistence.

In the summer the Indians passed by on their trips between the Reservations at Sisseton and Crow Creek. They stopped at the store and bought a little sugar and flour. They were friendly and would proudly show their Government Pass to indicate that they had a right to be off the Reservation. But they had to be watched, and James tried to limit the number in the store to two or three at a time. The boys saw to it that their dogs were out of sight. Today there are traces of their trails in a pasture near where Rose used to be—grass-grown now, and nearly gone.

There were two baseball teams at Rose. The members of the first team were Will Kiser, Bert Fair, Noah Edwards, Sr., Charles Smith, Bert Smith, and Judd Smith; the second team members were Carl and Ray Gregory, Noah Edwards, Jr., Alphie Wright, Guy Miller, Howard and Sedgwick Smith. Judson Smith, who got his start on the Rose team, went on to larger teams and spent twenty-one years in the major ball leagues.

The crops were poor in 1897 and many farmers became discouraged and left for "back East" in covered wagons. Many had bought supplies "on time" and were unable to pay for them. They would come to the store and say, "Jim, you go over to my claim and you'll find a few head of horses and cows. If we ever get anything ahead we will send you the balance of the bill." The stock was worth about $10.00 a head then. With the closing of the fall of 1897, James had about one hundred head of mixed cattle, and horses. They put up prairie hay and with a few straw stacks managed to winter them. The following summer the stock was herded on the prairie, south and east of Rose during the day, and brought home at night. Sherman who was twelve then, did a large share of the herding; he had a pony that was his constant companion. There was also a new gun, a Winchester 22, repeating rifle, which his father had bought him. Many otherwise tiresome hours were whiled away at target practice and he became a crack shot.

The family grew up and began to make their own lives. Bert established the Conde Bank; Howard became associated with Wells-Lamont-Smith Glove Company of Chicago. Roy, after managing an elevator at Wecota, bought a farm a mile and a half east of Rose. Sedgwick was employed by the Jackson Hardware Company at Aberdeen, and later bought a farm near Roy's; Paul managed the Brentford Bank eight years, then he too farmed near his brothers; Sherman took charge of his parents' farm so they could enjoy their declining years, until Rose burned; then he built a farm of his own across the road from the Rose site.

Today the sole survivor of the James Smith Family is Sedgwick. He still lives on his farm a mile and a half east of the homestead site and Rose.

HANS H. SONDERGARD

In 1880 Hans H. Sondergard, lured by the fabulous stories of America, left his home in Denmark and, with his three brothers, Sam, Tom, and Mark, crossed the Atlantic to seek his fortune in the New World.

In this land he found hardships, challenge and adventure.

At first, unable to speak English, he found it hard to obtain work. Finally he was hired by a harness maker, for he had been schooled in that trade in Denmark. He then attended night school and learned to speak and write English. Later for a time he helped construct some of the railroads which were so important in the development of the West.

In 1882 he and his brothers joined the land seekers and came to Dakota Territory. At Watertown, they filed on their claims and then walked to their new land which was located a few miles from the present town of Turton. Sam's, Tom's, and Mark's claims joined, but Hans' was six miles away. On his claim he built a sod shanty, a barn, and planted trees. Soon his youngest brother, Tom, became ill from the hardships of pioneer life and died in Hans' shanty. The brothers made a coffin of rough boards and buried him near the shanty. They covered the grave with stones to protect it from wolves. By the grave, Hans planted a willow tree in loving memory of his brother.

On July 11, 1889, the year that South Dakota became a State, Hans married Ida Belle Davidson, a beautiful girl of twenty-one years. She had come to Dakota Territory from Wisconsin, with her parents, who had brought her from Denmark when she was a baby. The Davidsons had taken a claim near the present town of Frankfort. Within a few years, the mother, Christena Gregerson Davidson, at the age of forty-nine, died from drinking polluted water. She was buried in a now-deserted country cemetery a few miles east of Frankfort.

Life in the Territory was hard. Prairie fires were a constant threat in summer and blizzards in the winter. It seemed that the strong, unchecked wind always swept across the fields. There was also shortage of water. Hans dug three surface wells, with open curbing, on his farm. From these, his son Henry drew water for the thirsty cattle. On this chore, he was always accompanied by his sister Eva, who kept the milling animals from pushing her brother into the well and drowning him.

Hans and Ida Sondergard met the hardships that came to them in this pioneer life with courage and fortitude that marked the pioneer. They never forgot the 'Great Blizzard of 1888' that they both experienced or the 'Winter of the Big Snow,' when they were forced to feed their livestock from the roofs of the sheds in which they were housed.

In spite of all the hardships the Sondergards clung to their prairie home. Here they reared their seven children and slowly improved their property. They are typical of the honest, hard-working pioneers who blazed the trail for those who followed.

THE SPARLING FAMILY

William Sparling

William Sparling, a native of Ontario, Canada, was the eldest of eight children born to Edward and Mary Sparling, both of whom were natives of County Limerick, Ireland. William was born on November 10, 1832.

He farmed in Canada until he was thirty years of age, when he came to the United States with his family and worked at lumbering in Oceana County, Michigan. He moved to Iowa where he farmed for two years, then to Minnesota, and in 1879 came to Dakota Territory. Here, near the present site of Ashton, he built a house, part sod and part dugout. During the first week, his household belongings, wagon, and provisions were destroyed by a prairie fire. The family moved five miles down the river. Mr. Sparling worked for a time putting up buildings, then went to Minnesota where he worked in the lumber camps.

Mrs. Sparling's maiden name was Mary J. Trelford, and eight children were born to them. They were: Henry, Edward, Mary, John, Joseph, Anna, Lillie and Caroline.

Mrs. Sparling died on January 6, 1898.

Edward Sparling

Edward Sparling, with his brother, Henry, came to Dakota Territory in 1878, locating his land directly across the river from his brother's farm. When fire destroyed the property of his father, William Sparling, Edward was in Deuel County working with four oxen and a wagon. He sent his father the wagon, and two of the oxen, and then with the other two oxen he started for the Pineries of Wisconsin. Sometimes he rode one of the oxen and the remainder of the time he walked. That winter he cleared two hundred dollars working in the pine woods and for the next five years he worked in the woods during the winter months, returning to Dakota in the spring.

In 1888 he married Delphine Smith, one of the first teachers in Spink County. Six children were born to them: Ruth. Lola, May, Esther, Nellie and Dorthea.

Henry Sparling

Henry Sparling was born September 18, 1854 in Bruce County, Canada. He was the eldest son in a family of eight, born to William and Mary J. Trelford Sparling. When he was nine years old, the family moved to Chicago. Later he worked in the lumber camps in Michigan. Here he began shingle weaving. When he was twenty years of age he went to Iowa and farmed for two years. He then went to Pine City, Minnesota where he lived for two years. In 1878 two of his brothers and he went to Chippewa County, Minnesota. In September, Frank Caldwell, Charles Thomas, Henry and his brother Edward, proceeded to Dakota Territory where they were joined by F. I. Fisher. The five traveled by ox team thru woods, lakes, Goodwin village and Lake Kampeska, to the James River, to the point now known as Skinner's Grove. Three of the party squatted on land and then returned home. In the winter, Fisher advised them to return if they wished to save their land. He, in the meantime, filed a declaratory statement on the land his party had selected. The claimants returned in the spring and filed on their claims.

Henry, in the spring of 1880, worked with a surveying party and in the follong winter worked in the Minnesota woods. He married Cora E. Latimer, a native of Wisconsin, on January 3, 1883, and six children were born to them. They are: Raymond H., Alice C., Charles M., Chester B., Ralph W. and Herbert J.

Mr. Sparling was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and first chairman of the Township Board.

In the spring flood of 1897 he was forced to move his family from their home to higher ground. The water subsided within six weeks but on returning to their home they found everything in precarious shape, and in trying to dry the house out, a stack of hay caught fire and Mr. Sparling lost all of his buildings with the exception of his residence.

JACOB AND PHEBE J. SPENCER

During the winter of 1882, a Quaker family living on a small farm in southern Ontario, less than one hundred miles west of Niagara Falls, began to become dissatisfied with their small sandy farm, it having been necessary for the father to spend the long winter months working in a nearby lumber mill in order to support his family.

He had been receiving glowing reports from his brother, who, having the pioneer spirit, had moved to far away Dakota Territory, U.S.A. The brother wrote of the wonderful opportunity of filing on a homestead, and sent pictures of the rich black soil. So in late winter or early spring, the Spencer family sold their land and all of their property except a few personal belongings.

On March 20, 1882, Jacob G. Spencer and his wife Phebe Jane and their three daughters, Sarah Catherine, Ella Jane, and Mary Ida, bade goodbye to their relatives and friends and started by train for Dakota Territory.

They came via Detroit, Chicago and Minneapolis, arriving at Milbank, Dakota Territory on March 24, where they stayed three days because of a blizzard.

They arrived at Ashton which was their destination on March 28th. Ashton was then the end of the railroad line.

The family lived in the depot at Ashton while Jacob, with the aid of a land agent, located in Tetonka Township, on the Southeast Quarter of Section 11-119-62, about twenty miles northeast of Ashton. He filed on the homestead and on April 4, started to build a shanty.

On April 11, the family moved to their new home. They had little furniture; they had a stove, and later built several cupboards and tables from the large wooden boxes in which they had shipped their personal belongings, dishes, linens, clothing, bedding, feather beds, and a few keepsakes.

Phebe Jane and the girls went out on the prairie and cut the long grass with scissors and knives to fill cloth ticks for their beds.

At times that first year they were very homesick. Being a religious family, they missed the association with the Friends' meeting, and also they missed their loved ones, but they had come to make a new home. They missed the trees but soon planted a small grove. Jacob started breaking the sod. They dug a well and raised water with a pulley and buckets on a rope. They had no fences but tethered their few horses and two cows with long ropes attached to iron picket pins driven into the sod.

They soon built a larger house and used the shanty for a kitchen. Under the house was a cellar where they kept vegetables and supplies. Jacob built small stables where the few animals were kept. Later a few chickens were raised.

An old diary of the Spencers' shows the humble beginning of Sunday School in Tetonka Township as follows:

"3rd Mo. 18 - 1883. Township 119, Section 11. Sabbath School commences with three scholars and two teachers. Bible Class taught by J. G. Spencer, composed of two scholars. Infant class, one scholar taught by Phebe J. Spencer."

This Sabbath School was held in the Spencer home for several months.

The diary shows the attendance through November 1883, and in August and September, was seventeen.

About three-fourths of a mile west of the Spencer home was a makeshift schoolhouse thought to have originally been a granary. This was replaced by a new schoolhouse built by E. L. Noyes, in 1883. It was known for several years as the "Kiser School." It was built on land owned by Edward Cranefield. This schoolhouse is still standing although it hasn't been used as a schoolhouse for many years. It is now owned by Mary Cranefield Dodge, a daughter of Edward and Sarah Catherine Cranefield.

The schoolhouse was also used for church and other social gatherings.

The Spencers helped organize a Sunday School in this schoolhouse, which was known as "Rose Union Sunday School."

The following is an excerpt from a letter written by Jacob G. Spencer to a relative in Canada:

"January 14, 1895. If we have poor crops and but little money, we have good meetings. We had a great revival in our schoolhouse and between thirty and forty were converted. Our little Sunday School has grown to be a large one. Besides, we have a thriving Christian Endeavor Society for the young people. In addition to that, a large prayer meeting once a week, and Methodist and Baptist meetings alternately every Sunday. Besides we frequently attend other meetings four or five miles out of our neighborhood."

The Spencers' first great sorrow came in October, 1895, when Phebe Jane Spencer died after a lingering illness. She was buried at Conde.

The youngest daughter, Ida, was still at home, and continued to keep house for her father and teach in the nearby schools. They remained on the farm until about 1902 when Jacob sold the farm.

For a year or so, he did carpenter work and preached in some schoolhouses. Then he went to Redfield where he lived with Ida who in 1904 married R. J. Hutchings.

Jacob wrote weekly sermons which were printed in the Redfield Journal Observer. He later suffered a stroke and was unable to read or write.

He died in September, 1914, and was buried beside his wife in Conde.

THE SPINK FAMILY

Hall M. Spink, brother of Solomon Spink, for whom Spink County was named, arrived in Dakota Territory from Augusta, Wisconsin, in 1879, with his family of six boys and one girl. He settled on land east of Mellette until the land office was opened and he could file on a homestead.

R. M. Spink, father of Dr. Jay Spink of Huron, died in 1959 at the age of 92 years.

Percy Spink, 90 years of age, and his son, Lester, of Redfield, South Dakota, are the last of the Spink family to reside in Spink County.

ELIZABETH PRATT STARR

Elizabeth Pratt was born in Rochester, New York on January 2, 1817. She married Harvey Starr, who died August 21, 1855 and was buried at Columbus, Wisconsin. Elizabeth was the mother of six children, three sons and three daughters, Melvin, Frank, Harvey, and the three girls.

Elizabeth Pratt Starr, a pioneer of three territories and two states, lived near Columbus, Wisconsin, until 1867, and before that she lived in Michigan. She, together with her sons Frank and Melvin, and daughter, Elizabeth and her husband, Theodore Boyington, moved to Osage, Iowa in 1867.

Mrs. Starr died on June 29, 1898 at the age of 82 years, at her son Melvin's homestead near Frankfort, and was buried in Columbus, Wisconsin.

Her son, Melvin, ran the livery and feed stables at Osage, Iowa, and helped invent the Model Baker, an oven on top of the stove. In the 1870's he also manufactured bedsprings.

In 1879 he moved to Dakota Territory. In 1880 Frank came, also Elizabeth and her husband Theodore Boyington. On December 17, 1880, Melvin had $500.00 in the James River Bank. Melvin was born May 21, 1843, at St. Joe County, Michigan, and came to Dakota Territory when first organized and was elected Justice of the Peace and County Assessor for two years.

On August 31, 1881, Melvin J. Starr, School District Clerk for District No. 6, Hastings, Dakota Territory, inserted an ad for bids to run from August 31, to October 1, 1881, for building a schoolhouse in said district. This school was the second one built in the county and was located west of Steve Noonan's farm and known as the Noonan school. Melvin managed the Spink County Real Estate Agency; he was Notary Public, and Locating Agent, at Hastings, Spink County, Dakota Territory.

Elizabeth's tree claim deed was for Sec. 25, 117, 62. Frank's homestead was two eighties along Timber Creek, Sec. 6, Township 116, Range 61, and Section 1, Township 117, Range 62. Frank H. Starr married Jennie Langs on December 9, 1883. His children were: Harvey, Mertie, and Orrin.

Melvin's homestead certificates are for the East Half of Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 117, Range 61, west of the 5th Principal Meridian, in Dakota Territory, and containing 80 acres. Dated December 15, 1882. West half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 117, Range 61, containing 79.88 Acres. Dated December 15, 1882. East Half of the Southeast Quarter and the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter and Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 117, Range 62, containing 160 acres. Dated December 15, 1882. (This is the farm passed down to Frank Starr, son of Melvin, bought from Frank by brother of Ralph in 1958, and now farmed by Daryle Starr, a son of Ralph Starr.) Part of the original house was part of a barber shop moved from Frankfort, and a claim shanty moved in, and a third part was built by Melvin. The lumber was from Green Bay Lumber Company, for floor and siding. Fencing and posts were purchased in April, 1885. Wheat was sown in April, 1881, and potatoes in April, 1881.

In July, 1885, Melvin was paid $15.00 for plowing the required land for a homesteader living in Chicago. Taxes paid in January, 1885 were: SW¼ 15 $70.18; NW¼ 30 $20.88, Lot 14, Block 9, Frankfort, $2.24, Lot 15, Block 10, $4.17, Personal, Melvin J. Starr, $12.18, and Elizabeth Starr, personal $3.87. The receipt was signed by C. G. Winchell, County Treasurer, Ashton, D. T.

Margaret Meyer (Maggie) born on December 29, 1856, came to Dakota Territory with Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Hammond from Milwaukee in the spring of 1880, and filed a claim on Brink's land across road north of Robert Freeburg's. Hammonds filed a claim on the land where Robert Freeburg now lives. Maggie Meyer married Melvin J. Starr on October 23, 1884 at Watertown, and honeymooned along the James River. In March, 1886, Hobert was born and died May, 1889, after falling from a high chair. Frank was born July 25, 1887, Ralph on May 18, 1891, and Marshall on November 21, 1892. Maggie died at 87 on April 28, 1943 at the original homestead built by son Frank, in 1925. Melvin served as the first postmaster in Frankfort. Frank operated a cigar and stationery store in Frankfort.

The official vote in Spink County, Dakota Territory on November 2, 1886, was as follows: For sheriff, E. J. Kaull, 1071; M. J. Starr, 1574; and A. J. Reise, 1035. Melvin was sheriff one term from January 1, 1887 to January 1, 1889. He was the first sheriff of Spink County after the courthouse issue was settled, which occurred in the election November 2, 1886. Before this time, sheriffs had been appointed.

On August 20, 1889, the inventory of the Central House (known as the Jarvis House, now the Foster Hotel, in Redfield, was $509.04. Melvin J. Starr was proprietor for a year, in 1890. It was purchased by him from Mr. Underhill.

Melvin was issued an employee's pass, good for forty days on May 12, 1882, at Huron, Dakota Territory, from Tracy, Minnesota to Redfield, for account of Land Depot. This was issued by the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul Railway Company. He also had a pass on January 1, 1887 issued at Aberdeen. He apparently worked for a time for the railway.

Melvin had several race horses and entered them in Redfield and Frankfort races. One was named Meg and one was Dan. He was often the holder of the money on these races.

Melvin Starr was one of the party who hunted the last buffalo that was trailed and killed in Faulk County.

In 1890, Melvin Starr moved to the farm east of Frankfort and farmed until ill health prevented. He died at the age of 79 years, on February 28, 1922, and was buried at Frankfort, South Dakota.

JOHN STEFFES

John Steffes, for many years, the oldest pioneer farmer living in Turton, came to Dakota Territory in 1881, when he was twelve years of age. The trip was made in an immigrant car, and because of the unusual amount of snow, they were almost two months on the way. They were snowed in for four weeks at Winnebago, Minnesota, and arrived in Madison in April. They then drove to their homestead west of Turton in Sumner Township, a trip which took several weeks.

The Steffes family lived in a sod shanty that fall and later erected a frame house.

Mr. Steffes married Nelda Fortin in 1895. They lived on his father's homestead, moving to Turton in 1906. He and James Kerr built the first garage in Turton in 1911, a business which Steffes operated for many years.

For more than fifty years, Mr. Steffes operated a steam threshing machine.

In 1932 he was elected to the Legislature. Mrs. Steffes died in 1916, and Mr. Steffes in 1919.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM STEPHENS

In the spring of 1882, a group of young people from Necedah, Wisconsin, arrived in Aberdeen to look for land for homesteads. They came to Aberdeen because there was already a young couple, Will and Maggie Kingston, from their Wisconsin town located south of Aberdeen near Warner.

Most of the land in that area was taken, but a few quarters remained, one in Spink County, six miles south of Warner. This was filed on in the land office in Huron, by Miss Ada Dann in the name of an uncle, M. J. Rawson, a Civil War Veteran. By filing in his name, she did not need to live on, or establish a residence on, the land for the required six months before receiving the final deed or patent, and could remain in Wisconsin at her teaching position. She was to be married to Mrs. Kingston's brother, William J. Stephens, of Columbus, Wisconsin, in January, 1883, and they were to begin living on the Dakota homestead later in the spring. They were happy to have found a place near the Kingstons.

Ada Dann's father was anxious to see the place where his daughter was to live, so in the summer of 1882, she and her father came to visit the Kingstons. To their surprise they found that someone had jumped the claim, and she then had to pay her uncle's expenses to Huron from Wisconsin, so that he could personally file on the land. This he did in September, 1882.

Ada Dann and William Stephens were married on January 31, 1883. For a while they made their home in Columbus, Wisconsin, where William took over the farm work on his father's place. Will Kingston, who owned a lumber yard in Warner, built a claim shanty on the Dann quarter in February. It was 10 x 12, a frame building covered with building or tar paper. Early in April William shipped a car with their belongings, and Ada arrived by train soon after on April 17th.

They had no cow that first summer, so they bought milk from a neighbor. Among their supplies was a large sack of dried apples, a barrel of flour, a box of dried herring, and a sack of wheat bran from which they made "coffee." All the rest of their summer's groceries were charged at the F. A. Howe Store in Mellette. The bill amounted to $12.00, when it was paid, after their crop was harvested in the fall.

Late that first summer Mr. Stephens bought another quarter of land, a relinquishment, which joined their quarter.

William's father died July, 1883, and he went to Wisconsin to manage the farm. While he was away, Ada stayed with the Kingstons in Warner. After a few weeks, William returned and brought his mother with him. Hoping to improve his finances, William sold his oxen in the fall and went to Nebraska where he had been previous to his marriage, and worked for the winter. Ada went to Wisconsin with her husband's mother, then went to her parents' home in Whitewater. William came there in early January, arriving a short time before their first child, a daughter, Matie, was born, in January, 1884.

William returned to their homestead in the spring to put in a crop, and built a four room frame house. Ada returned with the baby and her mother came in June. Wheat went twenty-five bushels to the acre that year. Frequently they drove to Warner, always taking along the pig, which could be seen riding in the back of the Democrat wagon, sometimes sitting on its haunches, enjoying the ride.

That fall they left the homestead, spending the winter in Wisconsin. They rented the farm to a neighbor who bought the furniture, livestock and farm equipment. William purchased an implement business in Columbus, Wisconsin, which he operated until the spring of 1886. A son, John, was born on May 30, 1885.

When they returned to Dakota in 1886 with their two children, they also brought with them from Milwaukee two young women, one to work for them and one to work for the Kingstons. The girls were on probation from Reform School. William had a hired man to help him and the man fell in love with one of the girls and wanted to marry her. Permission had to be obtained from Wisconsin. They became rebellious and eloped. The hired man simply left his team standing in the field while they walked to town.

William and Ada Stephens remained in South Dakota for several winters. She was ill with arthritis in 1886. On January 11, 1888 with the two children they drove to Mellette to visit the Hartwell Cadys who had been their neighbors the first few years on the homestead. The Cadys had moved into Mellette, where Mr. Cady ran a general store. The weather was very warm and mild for January. They were urged to stay all night but William felt that he should go home and help feed the livestock. The next morning the now famous Blizzard of '88 came sweeping in from the Northwest.

One day in the following summer, a herd of cattle from a nearby farm came through the yard fence and milled about the yard in search of water. Ada watched them gore a fine stallion to death, and then they came to the house and glared through the window. Eventually they left.

On June 26, a second daughter was born, the only one of their children to be born in Dakota, and this child was named Rachel. Ada's mother and sister had come for a visit.

Ada's mother returned home, but her sister, Mrs. Flora Goodearle remained and taught the Palmer school and later a school at LaPrairie, the present site of Brentford.

In the early fall of 1891, William became very ill. It was a ruptured appendix, but at that time the doctor called it intestinal inflamation. He recovered but was not strong, and Ada, with the aid of her six year old son, tried to do the chores, but she too became ill.

William leased the farm and the family lived in Wisconsin for several years. Two more daughters were born, Flora in December, 1892, and Hattie in July, 1894. William's health having improved, they returned to Dakota in the spring of 1895.

In 1898, things did not go well for the family. Matie, and Flora, had scarlet fever, John broke his arm, Hattie had pneumonia for the second time, and Ada was again helpless with arthritis. Mrs. Lizzie Townsend of Northville was working for Ada. She was much afraid of tornadoes and everytime a cloud appeared in the west, she would pick up Flora and dash for the cellar.

The Stephens family lived on the homestead or in Mansfield, where William bought another farm, until 1917, when they retired to a new home in Mellette. William died in 1927, and Ada lived to be ninety-two years old before her death in Redfield, in 1946.

THOMAS STERLING

Thomas Sterling, one of the early settlers in Spink County, came to Northville in the year 1882. He was born on a farm near Amanda, Ohio, but spent his boyhood and young manhood in Illinois. He graduated from the Wesleyan University which was located at Bloomington, Illinois, and then went to Bement, Illinois where he was principal of the Bement school. There he met and married Anna Dunn, one of his pupils. He had been 'reading' law as was customary then, and shortly after his marriage he and his wife went to Springfield, Illinois. There he entered the active practice of law and was for some time City Attorney of Springfield.

His wife died at Springfield, survived by a son, Cloyd D. Sterling. Mr. Sterling then came to Northville and later married Mrs. Emma Thayer, a pioneer of Watertown. Some time later they acquired a 400 acre farm, just east of Northville on the highway adjacent to Mellette. Mr. Sterling commuted to Northville to attend to his law practice, the greater part of which consisted in locating settlers who had come to Northville to take Government homesteads. He helped locate most of the early settlers in Spink and Faulk Counties.

In the fight between Ashton and Redfield as to the permanent location of the county seat, Mr. Sterling was strongly in support of Ashton.

In 1887 he was elected States Attorney of Spink County and moved to Redfield where he was engaged in active practice of law. Soon after he came to Redfield he was elected one of the delegates to the First Constitutional Convention in South Dakota. As Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, he took a prominent part in this Convention. This Constitution was adopted with the expectation that the Territory of South Dakota and North Dakota would be admitted to the Union as state governments. Grover Cleveland refused to sign any bill admitting these territories as states. Consequently another Constitutional Convention was called and the present constitution was adopted. Again, Mr. Sterling was a prominent part of this Convention.

After South Dakota was admitted as a state, he was elected Senator from Spink County in the First State Legislature. He continued to practice law in Redfield until 1901. During this time, Tom Walsh, an able lawyer and a hard fighter, was also practicing law in Redfield. Walsh and Sterling tried cases in Justice Court before George W. (Bunty) Fisher, who, at that time, was a tailor in Redfield. Fisher, very short in stature, would sit cross-legged on his tailor's bench and continue his sewing while he listened to Sterling and Walsh fight their cases. Walsh later left Redfield and the next time the two met was in the United States Senate, Walsh having just been elected Senator from Montana. The two continued to be warm friends.

In 1901 Mr. Sterling was selected as first Dean of the Law School which, largely through his efforts, had recently been organized at the State University of South Dakota. He continued in this capacity until 1912. Under his leadership, the Law School grew to be one of the leading law schools in the West. However, in 1912, Mr. Sterling resigned to become candidate for the United States Senate. He was elected, being the last United States Senator to be chosen by the Legislature rather than by popular vote. Mr. Sterling served two six-year terms in the Senate and then retired from active politics. continuing to reside in the city of Washington until his death at the age of eighty-four. Interment was made at Cedar Hill Cemetery near Washington.

CHARLES C. STODDARD

Charles C. Stoddard, one of South Dakota's pioneers, came to the Territory in 1881, Mr. Stoddard was born in West Woodstock, Connecticut, February 8, 1854. His parents were Ebenezer and Charlotte (Pendleton) Stoddard. His maternal great-gandfather, Jesse Pendleton, was a member of the Massachusetts legislature, and his paternal grandfather was a member of Congress from 1822 to 1824.

Charles Stoddard began his education in Norwich, Connecticut where he attended school until ten years of age. He then came with his parents to Fillmore County, Minnesota. where he continued his education until he reached the age of seventeen. He came to South Dakota and filed on a pre-emption and also a tree claim. He improved his claim and purchased other land in Beotia and Benton Townships. He was the first Treasurer of Beotia Township.

Mr. Stoddard was married December 25, 1904 to Miss Christine Hansen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Hansen of Virgil, South Dakota. To this union, three children were born: Lucy, Mrs. Adelbert Haskell, Conde, South Dakota; George, who died when ten months old; and Charles, Jr., who now lives in California.

Mr. Stoddard moved his family from the farm to Conde in 1921, but kept informed on farming activities until his death January 14, 1928.

REUBEN C. STYLES

Reuben C. Styles, son of Robert and Rachel Benedict Styles, was born in Washington County, Indiana, December 10, 1861. In 1866 the family moved to New Sharon, Iowa, where Reuben received his education.

On February 25, 1886, he married Mary E. Arnold, a school teacher of Lynville, Iowa, and immediately after their marriage they went to Dakota Territory, and located on a farm three and one-half miles west of where Brentford is now located, the Southwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 120, Range 63. In 1890 he sold this property and bought land south of Brentford, the Southeast Quarter of Section 6, Township 119, Range 62, the land new being owned and operated by a grandson, Lowell Styles.

In 1910 Mr. Styles moved to Redfield leaving his son Robert to manage the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Styles, both reared in the Friends' Church, appreciated the opportunity to serve in the community, and affiliated with the Congregational Church after coming to Dakota Territory. They were Charter members of the LaPrairie Sunday School of the Church, organized in 1888. Mr. Styles was Clerk and Treasurer of the Congregational Church for thirty-five years.

Mr. Styles was a Mason, Odd Fellow, and Yeoman, and served on the town council. He was a school board member for thirty-five years. Mrs. Styles was a member of the Eastern Star, Rebeccas, and was President of Ladies' Union, and W.C.T.U. for several years.

Seven children born to them, were: Robert J., Mabel R., Ardella M., Arnold A.; two sons died in infancy and a daughter Gertrude at the age of ten.

Mr. Styles died March 4, 1927, and Mrs. Styles February 14, 1930.

MR. WILLIAM W. SWAN

In the spring of 1889, when Dakota was still a Territory, William W. Swan and his wife moved to Dakota Territory, and settled on a farm known as the "Foster Farm" one mile east and one-half mile north of Frankfort.

While farming this land, Mr. Swan, in collaboration with his father, W. E. Swan, and his brother A. E. Swan, engaged in the drilling of artesian wells. Many of the first artesian wells in Frankfort, Doland and Groton, were dug by the Swan brothers. Some of these wells are still in use today.

Mr. Swan had to his credit many inventions; a "Swan Reimer" used today in the oil fields of the southwestern states, was one of his early patents, as was a "Tractor Guide" used in 1918 by many Spink County residents.

In 1916 Mr. Swan was instrumental in having the Frankfort High School accredited. His older daughter, Ethel, was one of the members of the first graduating class of that school.

The Swan family, which consisted of a son, Gary, and two daughters, Ethel and Doris, resided on the Swan farm until 1920 when they moved into Frankfort.

Ethel Swan Schmidt resides at 1403 Todd St., Mountain View City, California.

MR. AND MRS. KNUT TORKELSON

Knut Torkelson was born in Stavanger, Norway, September 22, 1841, and came to Chicago, Illinois in 1880. He worked there on the section for two years, and in the spring of 1882 came to Ashton in Dakota Territory. There he helped early settlers build sod houses.

Petrena Nelson was born near Chaseburg, Wisconsin, November 19, 1852, and came to Ashton in 1882. In June, 1883, the two were married at Ashton. They homesteaded in Clifton Township where they made their home for several years, in a one-room sod house. There three children were born to them. Thomas, who died in 1955, Mrs. (Anna) John Beard, and Melvin Torkelson who lives in Redfield.

The Torkelsons burned twisted hay and gathered cow chips for their stove. They lived on the trail where the Indians traveled in their covered wagons. One day an Indian and his aged mother stopped and wanted to stay for the night. They made their bunks on the floor. Mrs. Torkelson said she did not sleep a wink that night, wondering about the Indians, and thinking of them being in the same room with them. However, they were perfectly harmless, and gave their hosts a blanket for their night's lodging.

In later years, the Torkelsons moved to a farm five miles northwest of Frankfort where they made their home for several years before moving to Frankfort, in 1920. Mr. Torkelson died in 1927 and Mrs. Torkelson in 1929.

TUNMORE FAMILY HISTORY

In May of 1882, the Tunmore family left Gardonsville, Minnesota in ox-drawn covered wagons, for Dakota Territory. In the group were John and Lydia Tunmore, their seventeen year old son William, fifteen year old daughter Agnes, and a married son Thomas, with his wife, Susan Emeline (nee Beighley), and their three and one-half year old daughter Ruth. They entered Dakota through the Kampeska Lake Gateway. They traveled slowly as they were bringing a few cattle with them. Agnes and Will drove the cattle behind the wagons. In later years, Agnes said that she walked to Dakota.

At night they made camp on the prairie. The oxen and cattle were picketed and supper was cooked over a campfire. Their chief cooking utensil was a large footed cast iron kettle. The women cooked the meat – partridge or jack rabbit if they had been fortunate in hunting that day; they added a few potatoes when the meat was nearly done, and after serving the meal they rinsed the kettle and made the coffee in it.

Part of the way they followed a wagon trail, and sometimes had to "strike out" over trackless prairie. There seemed an endless expanse of grass and sky and the promise of cheap land on which to establish a home. They descended into the valley of the James River, stopped briefly at the newly founded Rose Postoffice, and on north, and then west of Northville.

John filed on the Northwest quarter of Section 17-120-65, and Thomas on the Southwest Quarter of the same section. These were preemptions. They built their sod houses about one half mile apart on the bank of Snake Creek.

Emma's uncle Peter Beighley came to Northville in an immigrant car with some of their belongings and joined them.

The women made the "soddies" as comfortable as possible. The walls were papered with newspapers, (the only material available), to keep the dirt from crumbling down too easily. When Ruth learned to read, she was disgusted to find that she could not find complete stories. Some parts were invariably lost in the papering process. The dirt floor was tamped down hard and swept clean. The water had to be hauled in barrels on a stone boat from the creek. Buffalo chips were gathered and stacked for fuel.

Grandmother Lydia loved flowers and had brought some plants with her from the old home. The prairie was so hot and dry that she raised house plants. She had to carry water for them from the creek. During winter nights she moved them near the stove and covered them to protect them from frost; even so, many of them were lost.

Ruth visited her grandmother daily. When the prairie grass hurt her bare feet, her father plowed a furrow between the two houses for her path.

In 1884 Grandmother Lydia died, and son William followed her in 1887. They are buried in the Northville cemetery. John remarried in 1885 Miss Henrietta Oliver.

When the January 12, 1888 blizzard struck, the family was all at home except Ruth who had gone to school. The family spent a sleepless night, kept awake by the howling wind and their concern for their child, who spent the night at the school. The next day Tom walked to the school and found that the teacher, Mr. George Woodford, had kept his pupils safe in the schoolhouse. The parents were appreciative of his care of their children.

Because of drought and hail damage, which occurred seven times in the years 1882 to 1890, the families were forced, in the fall of 1890, to move back to Minnesota. However, in 1892, upon hearing of the need of help in South Dakota, to harvest the bumper crop of wheat, Thomas Tunmore and Agnes Tunmore returned to the Mellette vicinity.

Thomas rented a farm near Mellette and the family lived here until 1896, when they moved to Aberdeen. Agnes lived with them, and for many years wove rugs.

Ruth taught several terms of school near Mellette and then attended the Aberdeen Business College. She was employed by Wilbur Lawrence and later became a secretary at the Jackson Hardware Company. Ruth and her father formed the Tunmore and Tunmore coal business.

John Tunmore died at the home of his son Thomas in 1906 and was buried at Northville.

On October 4, 1910, Ruth was married to Mr. Sedgwick Smith, and they lived in Aberdeen for a year, both employed at Jackson's, then moved to a farm west of Conde, South Dakota.

Thomas, his wife, Emma, and his sister Agnes, lived together until his death in July, 1934. Agnes lived with and cared for Emma until her death in September, 1937. Agnes then made her home with Ruth at Conde, and then with a half-sister in Minnesota. Ruth died in August, 1951, and Agnes in June, 1960. They are buried at Riverside Cemetery near Aberdeen, South Dakota.

FRANK UDELL

Frank Udell was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, on January 1, 1860. He came to Dakota Territory to file on a homestead in 1882. He returned to Dane County and married Minnie Bohl. They shipped their emigrant car to Northville by way of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and drove across country east of Mellette, in Tetonka Township.

Frank Udell and Wallace Akers played for dances in the surrounding territory. They were on their way home after playing at Frankfort and were caught in the blizzard of 1888. All that saved them was seeing the shadow of a tree claim; they thought they recognized it and turned in. They ran into a clothes line and followed it to the house, where they stayed until the storm ended.

There were five children in the Udell family, Earl, born August 7, 1884, Edwin, born August 1, 1886, Ruby, born December 9, 1899. Two younger brothers died.

Mrs. Minnie Udell died in 1947 and Mr. Frank Udell died in 1950 at Shields, North Dakota, where he had bought land in 1917, and farmed with two of his sons. Earl lives at Carson, North Dakota, and Edwin lives at 4233 Poplar, San Diego, California.

Ruby Udell VandeVenter lives in Shields, North Dakota.

MR. AND MRS. P. J. VALDER

P. J. Valder was born February 13, 1816 in Cologne, Germany and came to America and settled in Wisconsin when still a young man.

His wife, Matilde Duren Valder, was born October 18, 1837 in Germany and came to America with her parents who settled in Wisconsin. She and Mr. Valder were married April 11, 1866. Three sons and seven daughters were born to them.

In July, 1887, they came to Dakota Territory and located in Frankfort. Here they bought the Frankfort Hotel and operated it until 1898.

Mr. Valder died November 23, 1901 and Mrs. Valder on November 7, 1919.

MRS. BERTHA VERSTEEG

I feel honored in being a pioneer daughter of South Dakota, for I love its sunsets, its plains and its courageous, friendly people. My father, mother, brother, sister and husband, all early residents of Spink County, now lie buried in the cemetery at Ashton. Of my family, only my sister, Martha Cadvill of Spokane, and I, remain.

James Hall, my father, was of English descent and was born in New York state in 1847. My mother, Mary Matson, was of Scottish origin and was born in Ohio in 1848. The two were married in Austin, Minnesota in 1870. In 1879, they, with three children, moved to Dakota Territory and my father filed on a homestead near Manchester. I was born there in a little claim shanty in 1882, a shanty that had its floor covered with straw and carpeted with gunny sacks to keep out the cold. Once my mother dropped a piece of burning twisted hay on the floor from our stove. Immediately the whole place was ablaze. Mother rushed us children to the nearby plowed field to protect us and neighbors came to help her put out the fire, but when Father returned in the evening from his threshing, the house had been destroyed. Fifty dollars hidden behind a picture on the wall, the only cash my father had, was also destroyed. We lived with a neighbor until a new house was built.

Our food was plain but wholesome. It consisted of cornmeal mush, milk, home grown vegetables, poultry, eggs, meat and dried fruit. At threshing time, it was my lot to take a small branch and shoo flies away from the threshers as they ate.

In 1891 my father sold his farm and we moved to Ashton where my grandfather, Aaron Matson, the Methodist minister, was then living. Father moved our furniture in a hayrack but Mother, my sister and I rode in style in our new carriage drawn by our horse.

In Ashton my father bought a cottage which he owned until his death. He also buoght a dray-line consisting of two wagons and two teams After my mother's death he lived in Redfield with my husband and me for twenty years. He died at the age of ninety years.

I attended the Ashton Public School. I recall the copper-toed school shoes I wore, and how I hated them! I liked the high-topped button shoes with their tassels, that I wore for 'best'. I remember too the sunbonnet and the red flannel underskirt. Father frequently amused me by drawing beautiful pictures on my slate.

One day in the spring of 1896, when we were in school, a tornado ripped the south side off the Court House, blew the steeple off the Congregational Church, and the roofs off several houses. Our teacher hurried us safely to a house across the street, but our superintendent was carried to the top of a tree. He was unharmed, except for a broken finger.

We children made money by cleaning and selling bottles to the drug store. On Decoration Day we gathered flowers, made wreaths of them and put them on the soldiers' graves. We visited the Indians, when they camped twice a year out near Ashton, and we were curious to see the carcasses of the dogs and cats they were said to dry for eating.

In the year of 1896 things began to pick up a bit for our family. We bought a base-burner, an ingrain carpet, a walnut parlor set upholstered in red plush, a sewing machine for mother who had, up to this time, done all of our sewing by hand, and an organ so that I could take music lessons. Mother had a good voice and loved to sing. Some of her favorite songs were "In the Sweet Bye and Bye" and "Marching Through Georgia." She especially liked the latter for her oldest brother had been a drummer boy in the Civil War when he was only sixteen years old.

In 1906 I married Arthur Versteeg and became the step-mother of two children who later moved to California. Arthur had come to Ashton with his parents from Pella, Iowa in 1884. That same year his father had built the Ashton Flour Mill. The latter moved to Oregon in 1889 and Arthur remained to operate the Mill. This mill burned in 1912 and we moved to Redfield where Arthur operated the Redfield Flour Mill until his death.

Our two sons were born in Ashton but attended and were graduated from the Redfield schools. Eugene studied at Redfield College and Donald graduated from the University of Minnesota. Eugene and his family now live in Redfield and Donald and his family in Minneapolis.

Mr. Versteeg served many years on the school board at Ashton and fifteen years as President of the Redfield Board of Education. Both of us have been active in civic work. Mr. Versteeg died in 1932.

I often think how fitting for South Dakota is the sentiment expressed in our State flower, the "Pasque": "I lead."

THE FREDERICK WACKEROW FAMILY

Frederick Wackerow filed on his homestead in LaPrairie Township east of Mellette, on the bank of the James River September 16, 1880, and settled there May 24, 1881.

He had been born in Germany and "went to sea" to escape the compulsory military service. When he left the ocean, he migrated to Manitowac Rapids, Wisconsin, where he met Lena Kugler Runge, a widow with five children. After their marriage, they moved to Milwaukee, where he had a soap business. The home and factory were on the shore of Lake Michigan, hence, he could buy the fat to make the soap, from the incoming boats. It was in Milwaukee that his two children were born; Will, on August 8, 1872, and Dora on May 12, 1874. He had decided to homestead in Dakota because of his health.

Mr. Wackerow built his sod shanty on the bank of the James River, and in April, 1882, his wife and family came to join him. He then built a frame house with lumber purchased in Milwaukee. His step-sons, Fred and Carl Runge remained in Wisconsin. Fred became a dentist. Carl came to Dakota the following year and homesteaded a nearby quarter, and taught school, and then returned to the University of Wisconsin where he received his Law Degree in 1886. He became city attorney of Milwaukee and later a Judge in the County Court there for thirty years.

The step-daughter, Bertha, married C. Frank Leonard, who homesteaded next to the Wackerows. The land is still owned by her sons, Harry and Carl, who have always lived in Spink County.

Lena Wackerow was remembered by the pioneers as coming in her horse and buggy to act as mid-wife for the many babies born in the "new" country.

Frederick Wackerow died of typhoid fever in 1890 on the homestead where his family continued to live for an additional forty-eight years.

Lena Wackerow died in Kenosha, Wisconsin in 1903.

Will did threshing for a number of years and Willie operated a "cook car"; he was also an inventor, and worked on a corn picker, invented a steam-valve, wrenches and other devices.

Twin girls, who died at birth, were born to them January 26, 1898. Their next child was born March 22, 1916, Florence. She attended college in Milwaukee, taught in Algoma, Wisconsin and married Julien Bamberger, of Milwaukee, in 1941.

Will Wackerow died April 29, 1936, in the home his father built, and was buried in the Mellette Cemetery. His wife died in Milwaukee, July 27, 1959.

PEARL TYRELL WADDINGTON

Thomas Tyrrell, father of Pearl Tyrrell Waddington, came from Chicago, Illinois, with several other men in the fall of 1881 and settled in Foster Township. They shipped lumber from Chicago for their homes and it was unloaded on a siding at Cavour, a town eighteen miles east of Huron. He settled on land bordering Pearl Creek, for which his daughter Pearl was named.

His wife and four sons came to Dakota the next spring with the rest of the wives whose husbands had come the fall before, to get their homes built. Pearl Tyrrell was the first born in the new settlement.

Her first memories are of the vast expanse of the prairie and tall grass and also the oxen team which her father had. He also had a team of horses. She recalls the sod houses that most of the settlers had, and many were still standing when she was much older.

One of the first schoolhouses was built a mile from their home, and they always had the teacher to board and room, for which she paid them the sum of ten dollars a month; this also included her washing and ironing. The teacher was paid a salary of thirty dollars a month.

Pearl was four and one-half years of age at the time of the big blizzard of January 12, 1888. She watched her father trying to get the cattle into the barn. He had to put feed sacks over their heads in order to do this, and still he lost several head of cattle. Many neighbors came in afterwards telling of their experiences during the blizzard. She also recalls some of the neighbors coming in later when they had an Indian uprising in Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Tyrell had a family of twelve children, so they all had to economize, and work, as did the rest of the settlers, but they had plenty to feed the family and clothe them, and were fairly comfortable for those early times. Only one of the families of this settlement was dissatisfied and returned to their old home in Chicago.

F. E. (GENE) WALLAR

Gene Wallar was born in Viroqua, Vernon County, Wisconsin, on January 10, 1881, and came to Dakota Territory, Tetonka Township, with his parents Frank and Mary Wallar, April 5, 1883, where he has since lived.

He was at school when the blizzard of 1888 struck. His teacher, John Redd, was lost in the storm. Two of the Bastian boys and Lloyd Wallar were in the school yard and heard him yell, so they yelled in return thus helping him to find his way back to the school. Then he wrapped them all up in warm clothes and started with them for the Wallar home. There was a cornfield about forty rods north of the school. They worked their way past the field and then just past the house, yelling as loudly as possible. Mrs. Wallar heard them and called back and they reached the Wallar home safely. Mrs. Wallar later said that their voices sounded no louder than a bird call. The Bastian boys' stepfather, Jack Seederstrom came for them the next day.

Gene Wallar died in Aberdeen May 2, 1961. His brother, Harry Wallar, lives near Ashton. Another brother James Earl, who lives at Presho, South Dakota, has just celebrated his 89th birthday. A brother Ed. Wallar, of Mellette, died some years ago. His widow still lives at Mellette.

Mrs. Gene Wallar, (Mabel Hess) came from Iowa to Dakota about 1885, with her parents, John and Anna Hess. They settled on a homestead just west of Blunt. She attended school there and high school in Pierre, and later college in Huron. She taught school near Blunt, Tulare, and Ashton, and northeast of Brentford in Beotia Township. She also taught in Tetonka Township. She and Gene Wallar were married June 2, 1909. She now lives in Tetonka township, her present address being Mellette, South Dakota.

HENRY COMER WALSH

Henry Comer Walsh was born January 20, 1857, in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. Here he attended school, and at the age of fifteen, taught school, studying law at night. Later he continued his study of law in an office in Manitowac, Wisconsin.

He came to Dakota Territory in 1882 and located in Redfield, and in 1884 he was admitted to the bar. His younger brother, Thomas J. Walsh, having been graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1884, joined him in his law firm in Redfield, and was his law partner until 1890. At that time, Thomas accompanied by his wife, Eleanor McClements Walsh, moved to Montana.

Mrs. Henry Comer Walsh, the former Anna I. Wykoff, was born October 4, 1862, in Providence, Pennsylvania. Later she moved to Scranton, Pennsylvania, and in 1888 visited friends in Redfield who had formerly lived in Penn Yan, New York. A year later, she married Henry C. Walsh, and they made their home in Redfield. A daughter, Irene, and a son, Dana Wykoff Walsh, were born to them. Both children attended school in Redfield and were graduated from the University of Wisconsin. After teaching in Redfield for several years, Irene married Dr. Raymond T. Birge, (recently retired chairman of the Physics Department at the University of California), and Dana worked for the United Rubber Company, in Los Angeles.

Irene recalls the rides taken over Spink County with her father in their two-wheeled cart drawn by their horse, Billy, and trailed by their dog, Brown. She remembers also the sod huts on the prairie and Gumbo Sag, the slough between Redfield and Frankfort, and her father's ballteam of the Eighties.

After the departure of his brother, Thomas, to Montana, Henry took Charles Howard into partnership.

Henry Walsh died in Redfield, November 26, 1897, and his wife March 3, 1903.

THOMAS JAMES WALSH

U. S. Senator from Montana 1912-1933

Thomas James Walsh was born on June 10, 1859 at Two Rivers, Wisconsin, the second son and third child of a family of ten children born to Felix J. Walsh and Bridget Comer Walsh. Felix J. Walsh had emigrated from Armagh, County Armagh, Ireland with his widowed mother, Nancy Dinaville Walsh, and a brother and sister. Bridget Comer had come with her family from County Mayo, Ireland. The two met and were married in Wisconsin.

Tom attended the public schools of Two Rivers and was graduated from high school at sixteen. He then began to teach in a one-room schoolhouse five miles inland from Two Rivers to which he walked in fall and spring and skated on the river in winter. Taking successive examinations, while pursuing a rigid schedule of self-education, he was granted a life certificate to teach in the State of Wisconsin, the equivalent of Bachelor's Degree, at twenty-one, and named Principal of the High School at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

While occupying this position he read law in the office of the foremost attorney of the city and in the fall of 1883 entered the Law School of the University of Wisconsin, from which he was graduated in June, 1884, having completed the two-year course in one. A member of his class was Mrs. Robert M. LaFollette, wife of the newly-elected County Attorney of that area, who later became U. S. Senator from Wisconsin.

Tom's older brother Henry had preceded him to Redfield, Territory of Dakota, and he joined him there. The two brothers set up a partnership for the practice of the law. Both participated in the political struggles of the locality, and were active in the campaigns which led to the division of the Territory to form the states of North and South Dakota, and the location of the county seat of Spink County at Redfield.

On August 15, 1889, in Chicago, Tom married Elinor Cameron McClements, instructor in singing in three of the public schools and Assistant Principal of one of the schools in that city. She was born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, daughter of James McClements, a native of Coleraine, Londonderry County, Ireland, and Anne Raper McClements who was born on the Isle of Man.

In December, 1890 the Tom Walsh family left Redfield for Helena, Montana where he maintained law offices until his death. His practice, during the ensuing years, was wide-spread and varied. He is credited with having established many of the principles of mining law which are universally recognized today. His long efforts in behalf of the laboring man in his struggle to secure real safety, reasonable working hours, and adequate wages, won him the respect and confidence and lasting loyalty of such groups of workers as were only then being organized to demand such conditions. His wife was his major assistant in his office through all these years.

He was an active participant in all the political battles of the time, local, state and national. He was chosen a member of the Montana Delegation to the National Democratic Conventions from 1908 to 1932, and was a member of the platform Committee at each save those of 1924 and 1932 over which he presided as Permanent Chairman. He was also Manager of Western Democratic Headquarters at Chicago in 1916 when Woodrow Wilson was re-elected to the Presidency. He sought political office for himself only twice before he was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1912. He was defeated for Congress in 1906, and for the Senate in 1910 when the Legislature, which then elected the Senators, was dead-locked for sixty days, neither he nor his Republican opponent being able to win the majority needed for election. A compromise was reached in the closing moments and another Democrat was elected. Two years later, Montana law having been so changed as to allow the voters to express their preference for a candidate, and to force the Legislature to abide by that mandate, his majority was so overwhelming on the first ballot that a motion was made and carried to make his election unanimous, the only Senator so chosen in Montana. Before 1918, the Direct Primary Law had been enacted and he was returned to the Senate with ever increasing majorities in 1918, 1924, and 1930.

His defense of the rights to life and property of aliens residing in the United States during and after World War I, his efforts to persuade the Congress and the people that the United States should become a member of the League of Nations, and later of the World Court, his untiring work for the advancement of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Waterway Treaty, his exposture of the fabulous "steal" of Tea Pot Dome, are but a few of the labors of those years.

Walsh was an early advocate of the candidacy of Franklin

Delano Roosevelt, and was chosen Permanent Chairman of the 1932 National Democratic Convention, which first nominated Roosevelt for the Presidency. He accompained the nominee, in an advisory capacity, on a major portion of his campaign. Shortly after the election of the President, Roosevelt besought him to accept the post of Attorney General in his Cabinet. The Senator pleaded with him to allow him to remain where he was, saying that he felt that in the Senate he could better serve the President, the Nation, and his State. However, he acceded to the wishes of President Roosevelt, and agreed to accept the position which fate decreed he should never fill. He was stricken with a fatal coronary on March 2, 1933, just three days before the Inauguration. Funeral services were held on March 6, 1933 in the Chamber of the House of Representatives, in the presence of all officers of the new administration, Members of Congress, the Supreme Court, and the Diplomatic Corps. His body was then taken to Helena, Montana for interment in Resurrection Cemetery beside that of his wife who had died in 1917.

Senator Walsh is survived by his only child, Genevieve Walsh Gudger, widow of Captain Emmet C. Gudger, U.S.N., who now makes her home in Helena and at Lake McDonald, Montana; by two granddaughters, Elinor Gudger Parks and Gloria Gudger MacArthur, and two great-grand-children, Robert Walsh Parks and Dana Elin Parks.

MR. AND MRS. JULIUS WEILAND

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Weiland came from Minnesota in 1881 with three small sons and settled on land directly north of what eventually was Ashton. They were the parents of Mrs. D. H. Gates of Redfield, and Mrs. W. G. Roberts of Ashton. The Weilands had nine children in all, only one of whom was born after South Dakota became a state.

They experienced very hard times as did the other settlers of the region, but Mr. Weiland gradually added to his acres, which are still owned by two of the sons, who now live in Portland, Oregon. Three other sons are deceased. One daughter, Mrs. Clara Harr, lives in Riverside, California and the youngest son, Dr. Arthur H. Weiland, lives in Miami, Florida. These members of the family are always glad to return to their home state to visit.

Mrs. Gates recalls a cyclone which swept through Ashton the latter part of May, 1885. Her father rushed the whole family into the basement after closing all the windows in the house. One of her brothers was still at school, and all the boys there ran out on the prairie and lay down. Some of the people crossed the street and clung to trees.

Before the family had gone into the basement they saw the steeple of the Congregational Church blow down, and the north end of what was the old courthouse collapse. All chimneys were leveled. Since the courthouse was the location for commencement exercises, an immediate repair program began.

One very hot day, the small family dog "went mad." Mrs. Weiland and the children pushed it into the basement until the men could return from the field to dispose of it.

During the harvest season, Mrs. Gates, the oldest daughter, was delegated to go down town to buy meat for the harvesters each day, since there was no refrigeration at that time. Fifty cents worth of steak was sufficient for the family of eleven, in addition to the two extra harvest hands. Eggs were then selling for seven or eight cents a dozen and butter for twelve cents per pound.

THE WELKER FAMILY

The Welker family originally lived in Pennsylvania. Later some of the members of the family moved to Marolin, Ohio. There one held the position of judge. Two other brothers settled near Sparta, Wisconsin, and one, Jeremiah, moved to Minnesota and then, in 1879, to Dakota Territory, settling in Redfield.

This branch of the family consisted of Jeremiah Welker, his wife, Jane, two daughters, Mary and Ida, and two sons, William (who married Alvira Bradley of Tomah, Wisconsin), and Verne I. Welker, (who married Marguerite Clarke, the daughter of a Dakota pioneer, of Northville, South Dakota).

Verne I. Welker, the youngest child of the Welkers, was born on June 16, 1885, in Room No. 7 in the Welker House in Redfield. He attended the Redfield schools and then the University of South Dakota, where he graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering. Most of his life he worked for the Northern States Electrical Power Company. In 1947 he moved to Berkeley, California.

After the amputation of his right leg, which ended his career as an electrical engineer, he devoted his time to drawing, and to amusing the children of the neighborhood with his stories. To the children he is known as "Mr. Man," and to the older people of the city as Berkeley's "Grandpa Moses."

MR. AND MRS. JEREMIAH WELKER

Philip Welker came from Holland in 1779 and settled in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. His son David moved to Massillion, Ohio, and his son Jeremiah to New Lisbon, Wisconsin. There Jeremiah met and married Jane Duckworth, whose father John Duckworth was born in England, and graduated from Oxford. He had married Harriet Thorne, also from England. They settled in Auburn, New York where Jane Elizabeth was born in 1845. In 1856 they moved in a covered wagon to a farm near New Lisbon, Wisconsin.

Jane and Jeremiah Welker had one son William born in 1859 and died in 1886. After the Civil War the three moved to near Albert Lea, where they built a log cabin. Mary Alice was born in 1870 and Ida Lavena in 1876.

In the spring of 1878, Jeremiah Welker and his son, William, filed on a homestead near Old Ashton and then returned to their farm home near Albert Lea, Minnesota. When they returned the following summer, they found someone had jumped their claim. They then filed on two claims near Redfield. Mr. Welker built a shanty for his family on the bank of Turtle Creek in Redfield. The lumber used was hauled from Watertown, which was then the nearest railroad point. The trip each way took two days.

After the shanty was completed, Mr. Welker, with his son, returned to his home in Minnesota to harvest his crop, sell his farm, and make preparations for moving his family to their new home in Dakota Territory.

Early the following spring, 1880, Mr. Welker and son loaded their wagon with household goods and hand plows and set out to break the land to plant their first crop. They were joined in June by Mrs. Welker and two daughters, Mary and Ida. Upon reaching Redfield, they found they were the first white women and children there. Later in the summer, about eight other families moved into the vicinity.

There were no trees and the ground was covered with grass and cactus. Strewn around were many buffalo horns, heads and carcasses. The only birds were ground birds.

The winter of 1880-1881 was a winter of very deep snow. They burned wood hauled from the James River. There were large herds of antelope roaming the prairies in search of food. They furnished all with meat. During the winter, the community ran out of flour and so used their coffee mills to grind their wheat. No mail got through to Redfield during the first winter.

The first church services in Redfield were held in the Welker home in the fall of 1880. Later they were held in a passenger coach near the Chicago & Northwestern railroad depot.

In the summer of 1881, Mr. Welker bought two lots one block west of Main Street (the present site of the A & B Chevrolet Company). On these lots, he built a small hotel, known as the Welker House. In the spring of 1882 he died. His death was the first in Redfield, and he was buried on the bank of the creek at the north end of Main Street, later he was exhumed and buried in the Redfield Cemetery.

Mrs. Welker managed the hotel until she died in 1898. Mary Welker Bennett and her husband Orville Bennett continued to manage the hotel for many years.

The largest train of Indians that the Bennett family recalls coming through Redfield was composed of four hundred fifty wagons, plus ponies, dogs, and cows. They came from the south, past the Redfield College to the corner where the Welker House stood, then turned east past the site of the present Methodist Church, and then crossed the bridge and went north to Ashton. They were moving from one reservation to another.

The living descendants of the Welker family are: Verne I. Welker, of Santa Cruz, California, son of William Welker; Olive Bennett, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Eloise Bennett Rabuck, of Redfield, and Orville W. Bennett, of Bound Brook, New Jersey, children of Mary Welker Bennett.

W. B. WEST

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. West, (Lizzie M. Shepherd), came from Ripon, Wisconsin and settled in Three Rivers Township, two miles south of Ashton, on the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 117, Range 64.

A daughter, Mrs. Mae (West) Vay, was born on the homestead, January 8, 1882, and Blinn West was born on January 26, 1884 on the homestead. He lived there until 1954, when he moved to Colville, Washington.

MRS. PATIENCE WILKENS

Mrs. Patience Wilkens is one of the few remaining Dakota pioneers who remembers Doland when the main street was a grassy wagon path and a sprinkling of crude structures housing the early businesses.

She was the only daughter of a London-born Chicago businessman, J. W. Mawford, and made the trip to Doland with her mother in May of 1883 when she was nine years old. This trip, on a mixed immigrant train, took five days because the law compelled the train to stop at regular intervals to take the cattle off for feeding and watering.

Mr. Mawford built a long barn-like structure in Doland to be used as a hotel for land-seekers. Mr. Fargo, who with his son John, had come to Doland on the same train, built a more permanent hotel known as the Fargo House. Mrs. Wilkens recalls that each of the hotels had a bell which was rung loudly when trains came in, to attract the incoming immigrants.

The former city child attended the first school organized in Doland. It was held on the second floor of a general store and was taught by a young homesteader making her living by teaching while "proving up." The tuition for each of her sixteen pupils was one dollar a month. She worked for her room and board at the Fargo House. When the first Doland public school was built she attended that. A man named Asa Palmer was the first teacher.

The Mawfords took a claim in Belle Plaine Township. To "prove up," the law required them to build a homestead shanty, put down a well, plough five acres of the land, and spend two nights there each week for six months. The Mawford acres were plowed by four oxen.

During the blizzard of 1888, Mr. Mawford spent twenty-four hours in a cattle barn a mile from home, huddling against the animals for warmth.

The Mawfords later built a nine-room two-story house on the farm, using native stones which they gathered over a two year period. The special light-colored ones used for the window sills came from near Hitchcock. This house was a landmark until 1907 when all of the buildings on the place were destroyed by a prairie fire which started south of Doland and spread southwest to Broadland.

Following his wife's death, Mr. Mawford returned to Chicago where he had large real estate holdings.

Among the younger men who came to Doland in the eighties was Harry Wilkens, a native of Indiana. He was associated with his father in the harness business. He and Patience Mawford were married in 1895. They were the parents of two sons and a daughter. Except for two years in Conde, they spent their entire married life in Doland. He was a musician of considerable skill and served for many years as leader of the first band organized in Doland. He died in 1923.

RICHARD V. WILSON

Richard V. Wilson, son of Henry Wilson, a Methodist minister in England, was born December 4, 1857, at Uno, Wisconsin. In 1850, Henry Wilson, at the age of twenty years, with Fred Lovell, migrated to America and settled in Dakota Territory.

Walking from Watertown to Hastings (5½ miles west of Doland), they squatted on land which they later homesteaded. During that winter spent in their sod house they twisted hay for fuel, and roasted barley for coffee.

In the spring of 1880 Richard Wilson went to Wisconsin and returned with a yoke of oxen and lumber to build his claim shanty. That year he filed on his tree claim and pre-emption which were: Southwest Quarter of Section 18, and Northwest Quarter of Section 19, Township 116, Range 61.

In 1884, his father came to Dakota Territory and gave him his pre-emption now known as the Henry Michaels farm. October 15, 1888, he married Elsie Stoller, daughter of Joe F. Stoller, who migrated from Janesville, Wisconsin, in 1886, and took a homestead on the Northeast Quarter of Section 29, Township 116, Range 61.

Eight children were born to them: Dotha in 1892, Maggie in 1893, Lloyd in 1894, Wayne in 1895, Lyla in 1898, Berniece in 1899, and Ethel in 1901.

Richard V. Wilson was gored fatally by a bull in May of 1901, and died the following March 15, 1902. Elsie A. Wilson died July 9, 1939.

Duane Wilson, oldest son of Lloyd Wilson, with his three sons, now lives on the Wilson homestead. This makes the fifth generation of Wilson (three of which families were all born on the same building site) who have lived on this homestead.

THE WOOD BROTHERS

The Wood brothers came from Iowa in the early Eighties and settled in Buffalo Township. They farmed there for several years and manufactured threshing machines on their farm. They patented many kinds of farm machinery, and finally returned to Iowa and engaged in the manufacturing business; they "went broke" several times, and now own what is known as the Wood Brothers Threshing Company.

They published a book entitled "Wood Brothers in Action, 1864 to 1953."

A son, Robert E. Wood, lives at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and is in the farm implement business, his company being the "Wood Tractor Co."

GEORGE WOODFORD

George Woodford was teaching the school located on the southwest corner of the quarter described as the Southwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 120, Range 65, Northville Township, in January, 1888.

The morning of January 12th the weather was warm, the sun bright; there seemed promise of a fine winter day on the prairie. The children all came to school. A few of the older pupils walked; the fathers brought the younger ones by horse-drawn sleds.

Shortly after the nine o'clock school bell, the teacher and pupils noticed that the room seemed darker. The wind had risen. There was in the northwest a dark, wall-like cloud. The blizzard struck suddenly. The terrific wind and blinding snow shook the little school building and cut off its inmates from the rest of the world. They had a small supply of coal in the building. It had been such a mild morning that it had not seemed necessary to carry in from the nearby shed much more coal than had been needed to start the fire. Now it was necessary to have more coal and it would be dangerous to go for it.

Mr. Woodford devised a plan. He tied a length of rope around his waist, bundled up with a scarf around his face so he could breathe better in the storm, and, pails in hand, he made his way to the shed. He had instructed the older boys to play out the rope to him and keep their end fast in the doorway. In this manner he managed to bring in coal and insure his return to the pupils in his care.

The wind seemed to suck all of the heat up the chimney. If the door of the big iron stove was opened for a little light, it increased the draft.

Before noon Mr. Woodford collected all the children's dinner pails and put them on his desk. At noon he gave each child a small portion of food.

The afternoon was long. The children put on their wraps and stayed near the stove. A few oral classes were held but little could be done. The room was dark and chilly. Some of the youngest cried for their parents. The older pupils, following the example of their teacher, comforted them as best they could.

The evening meal was again a doled out portion from the combined food supply. The younger pupils were "bedded down" with their wraps, near the stove. It was difficult to give them much comfort.

Mr. Woodford must have stayed awake all night; whenever a child roused he was there to care for the child as best he could.

In the morning almost all of the desks had been used as fuel. The following forenoon the wind subsided. Then the anxious fathers came. They were thankful to find all safe and hurried home with their children.

In those days, very few people owned a watch; it was a luxury few could afford. However, the patrons of this school went together and purchased a pocket watch for Mr. Woodford. At the close of the school term, the parents all came to visit school one afternoon. They presented the watch to Mr. Woodford to show their appreciation for his keeping their children safe during the blizzard.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN M. WOODRING

The Woodring homestead 6½ miles northwest of Doland in

Prairie Center Township is owned by Harold Woodring, a grandson of the pioneer, John M. Woodring, who filed a Soldiers' Claim on the land in the fall of 1882, and in the spring of 1883 brought his family from Osage, Iowa to make their home there.

John M. Woodring was born August 29, 1838 at Easton, Pennsylvania. At the age of 18 years he moved with his parents to Freeport, Illinois. Five years later in 1861 when the Civil War started he enlisted in Company A of the 46th Illinois Infantry. For a time he was disabled and returned home, but re-enlisted later and served in the Army until he was discharged in 1865 at the close of the war.

In 1868 he married Maria Runkle at Rock Grove, Illinois. Two years later they moved to Monroe, Wisconsin and after some years they went to Osage, Iowa, to make their home. There they lived on a farm adjoining that of Richard Garland, father of the author, Hamlin Garland. Hamlin and the two older Woodring girls, Lida and Mayme, attended the same country school. Mr. Woodring often watched Hamlin as he plowed the fields, reading a book that he held in one hand as he held the handle of the plow in the other. After a couple of years in Osage, the Garland family moved to Dakota Territory settling near the small town of Ordway in the northern part of the Territory.

In 1883, after 13 years in Osage, the Woodrings with their four children, Lida, Mayme, Roy and Clinton, loaded an immigrant car with their household goods and their livestock which consisted of two horses, two cows and some chickens, and shipped them to Redfield in Dakota Territory. There they hitched their team of horses to their lumber wagon, which they had loaded with their belongings and rode the twenty miles northeast across the prairie to the home of their friend and former neighbor in Osage, Raul Mettler. They stayed with him and his family as had been previously planned, until their own house was built and a surface well was dug on the homestead which John Woodring had filed on in the fall of 1882.

During the first year on the homestead, the older Woodring children went a half-mile to school, which was held in the home of the family of Joe Brosseau. The next year they walked two miles to the Morlan school, a school which was moved in the early nineties a quarter of a mile west and a mile south of the Woodring homestead and became known as the Burgess School.

The two younger girls, Blanche and Edna, were born and raised on this homestead.

Each fall after threshing, Mr. Woodring took enough wheat to Frankfort to be ground into flour, that would last the family for a whole season. The women ground their own coffee in the small mill that they had brought with them from Osage. The men butchered and processed their meat by placing it in a salt brine or by smoking it. Mrs. Woodring, besides doing all the sewing for her own family, sewed for many of her neighbors.

The Woodrings learned that it took almost as much courage to live in Dakota in the nineties as it had in the eighties, as rain was lacking and crops were poor. At this time, Lida Brown, the oldest daughter, with her husband and family decided to move to Missouri. They moved their belongings in a covered wagon and Lida followed driving a horse and buggy. After living in Missouri for a couple of years, they made the return trip in the same manner. The Browns resided in Howard, South Dakota for a time and in 1917 returned again to make their home in Spink County. Clinton, the second son, and his family farmed for two years in Enderlin, North Dakota and they too returned to Spink County. The other members of the family have lived continuously in Spink County since they first came in the early eighties.

Roy, the oldest son, who now lives in Doland, can clearly remember the blizzard of 1888. He recalls the unexpected and sudden fury of the storm which struck in mid-morning and turned the brightness of the day into the darkness of evening. He remembers too, the difficulty of doing the chores after the storm subsided, for the barn doors were completely covered with snow.

Prior to his death on March 11, 1923, John Woodring was the last surviving member of the Grand Army of the Republic of the Sol Meredith Post at Frankfort. Mrs. Woodring was a member of the Women's Relief Corps of Frankfort until her death on June 10, 1921.

THOMAS YOUNG FAMILY

Thomas Young and family, his wife, two sons and one daughter, came from Wisconsin in 1880 to Dakota Territory, and Tetonka Township, and homesteaded on the Southeast Quarter of Section 33, Township 119, Range 63. He also took a tree claim in Section 27, the Southwest Quarter. They then built a sod shanty.

Lewis Young, the older son, homesteaded in the same section with his father on the Southwest Quarter of Section 33, and he also took a tree claim in Section 34, the Northeast Quarter. Lewis lived with his parents, the father died in the early Nineties, and about 1902 he and his mother retired to Ashton where they spent their remaining years.

Albert Young married Isa G. Wyman whose father came in 1879 and homesteaded in Jefferson Township on the Northeast Quarter of Section 5. Albert and Isa lived on the Southeast Quarter of Section 27. They had two sons, Raymond and Ethan.

Bart L. Sheridan came to Dakota Territory with the Thomas Young family, in 1880, and homesteaded in Tetonka Township, on the Southwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 119, Range 63.

At the same time Lorinda Young took the Northwest Quarter in the same Section. They built a shanty, lumber, on the dividing line, and were married and continued to live on this land, although in a larger more comfortable home, until 1908, when they retired and moved to Ashton where they spent the remainder of their lives. Four children were born to them. Two daughters: Florence (deceasd) married T. B. Young in 1903 and Tella in 1908 became Mrs. George Haven, of Mellette. Two sons, Robert, (deceased), and Jesse of Ashton, South Dakota.

Chapter X

TO REMEMBER IS TO LIVE AGAIN

And so Dakota pioneers
Who settled on these fertile prairies
Turned the earth and kept it blooming
For their children and the future.
With the gift of faith and courage
To their eager sons and daughters
They instilled the love of beauty
And of truth and pride in effort
Love of home and kin and country
On these open sunlit prairies.

REMINISCENCES OF ASHTON

A stranger in Ashton in the early days might think that the main street was to run north and south, for many of the first business places were built on what is now known as Elm Street, where Mrs. Parmeter is now located.

Mr. Kelsey was a homesteader north of Roberts, before he moved to Ashton. After the first fire, he built on the main street we know today.

A lumber yard was set up east of the present McCrossen residence and Mr. Bullen had his lumber yard where Dean Roberts now has his shop. Lumber, at first, was hauled by team from Watertown and many loads of it were sold while Ashton was being built.

The early settlers took their grain to those who had grist mills. These mills were at Sevall's, Lower's, Berkey's, and later at Ashton. They exchanged wheat for flour.

Very little corn was raised in those days and mush and milk was a treat. Some settlers broke a strip of land and planted corn with a hand planter. Later they found that the pocket gophers had eaten all of it.

REMINISCENCES OF LOU BARROWS

There were three families of Barrows who came to Spink County in 1881, nineteen in all. I am the remaining member of that family. Almost all of my friends of those early days now lie in the Redfield cemetery. My mind goes back to the time when there was no cemetery there, and Redfield Bagge, the first baby born in Redfield died and was buried at the north end of main street in the bank of the creek. Next, Mr. Welker died and was buried near the baby.

After the cemetery was marked out we bought a lot. My baby brother died then, and father and friends carried the little fellow to the cemetery as there were four feet of snow on the ground and horses could not get near the cemetery. It could only be guessed where the location of the lot was, as they had to dig through the snow and make a grave. When spring came, we were not able to locate the grave.

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

Lou Barrows

June 10, 1957

Dear Friend:

We were glad to hear from you. For the last three weeks we have had Mrs. Winnie Bagge Fobes of Minneapolis, Minnesota visiting us. She was 85 on June 8, 1957 and I will be 85 on the last day of August, 1957. We were close friends in 1881 when we both lived in Redfield and were nine years old. We had a great time going over our memories of the early days when we were children.

The Bagge family and ours, with our household goods, arrived in Redfield about the same time. Neither of us could find a place to live; we weren't even able to rent a sod shanty. Across from the Jarvis House, now known as the Packard Hotel, was the completed framework of a building. Both families moved into this structure and hung up carpets on the two-by-fours to serve as walls and a partition between the two families. The moon and the stars were the only roof the dwelling had. It was while our two families were living here that Redfield Bagge, the first baby born in Redfield, arrived.

The only available water supply in Redfield in those days sold for ten cents a barrel. Mrs. Fobes' brother, Andrew, filled barrels with creek water, put them on his stoneboat drawn by his horse "Kate," and took them into town. This water was used for drinking, cooking and washing. Later a well was 'put down' at Uncle Jimmie's lumber yard near the Chicago & Northwestern depot. People then came here for their water and carried it away in buckets.

I am glad you told me where I could buy the book "The Round-Up Years," as I have the companion book "The Round-Up of 1894."

A short time ago I saw Verne Welker, another early resident of Redfield. His father owned "The Welker House," one of the early hotels of the town. We had a long visit about the early days in Redfield. You say that you do not see any more of my write-ups in the Redfield Press. I recently sent them one by air mail but they have never acknowldged it However, I expect to hear from them later. Perhaps they are not interested in all of us pioneers? Anyway, I plan to write one more article on "The Firsts in Redfield," that is: the first places of business, the first hotels, etc.

I will stop writing now, as friends have come to take us to Los Angeles.

From one old-timer to another!

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret and Lou Barrows

LIFE OF JAMES BEECHEY

As told by his daughter, Mrs. Violet Noren, of Ashton, South

Dakota.

My father, James Beechey, was born in the slums of Bristol, England. His earliest recollections were sleeping on a pile of straw. His father was a shoe cobbler and a habitual drunkard. Because of this, his mother worked as a charwoman bringing home scraps of food from the homes where she scrubbed, many times crying because she did not have enough provisions for her children.

To satisfy his desire for sweets, James went to the wharf, crawled inside an empty sugar barrel and licked the sides.

The mother died of cancer, and the father deserted the family just before her death. The children were taken into an orphanage and here they received an education and a religious training.

James recalled many happenings at this orphanage, such as the whippings given the boys by the head master. One of the larger boys would be required to hold the boy over his back, while the master lashed the smaller boy.

There were times when the group would be taken to the estate of a wealthy man and the owner would throw the boys copper coins.

When he was twelve years old, England sent a shipload of boys to an orphanage in Toronto, Canada, and he was among the group. Each boy had a sack of clothing and a Bible. At this place he was whipped many times, so he ran away, with his older brother. Later the two came to the United States, settling in Dakota Territory.

In February, 1888, he married Mary Ann Weeks, also from England. They started life together on a Spink County farm. He was musical and played the accordion, harmonica, and organ. Many times the couple sang hymns by the lamplight.

He was English enough to insist on being the head of the household and making all the decisions. He was proud to become an American citizen.

REMINISCENCES CONCERNING TETONKA TOWNSHIP.

By: Mrs. Arvid Bindenagel.

Mr. Whitman lived with his family on his claim in Tetonka Township. One day in 1879 when he was making hay with LeRoy and Albert Hedges, a revolver which had been placed in the tool-box on the mower, as a protection against the Indians, accidentally discharged and killed Mr. Whitman. He was buried in the James River bank where they thought the land would not be plowed.

Drifting Goose wanted his granddaughter buried beside a white man, so she was buried near the grave of Jerry Collins, not many rods from the barn on the Gene Hammer farm.

The lumber for the R. W. Towne residence was hauled from Watertown by team and wagon in the fall of 1880. On May 10, 1881, this place was used as a postoffice with Towne postmaster.

On January 14, 1895, Jacob G. Spencer wrote to a relative in Canada saying: "If we have poor crops and little money we have good meetings. We had a revival meeting in our schoolhouse and forty were converted. Our Sunday School has grown to be a large one and we have a thriving Christian Endeavor Society for the young people. In addition to that, a large prayer meeting once a week and Methodist and Baptist meetings alternately every Sunday."

On the banks of Dry Run near the south side of Section 11, the Southwest Quarter, in Tetonka Township, there was what the early settlers called a Buffalo Lick. There appeared a whitish substance on the ground and cattle licked it. It was said the buffalo had made deep trails on the prairie to this spot. Nature seemed to replenish the supply each day.

REMINISCENCES OF MRS PAULINE BOUB.

Living near my father, Mr. Fred Schaefer, in 1880 were Frank and Mel Starr, and William Cutler. Al Gray took up land along the James River, and Syd Hastings, the banker of Osage, took up land along the creek. That land is now owned by Dr. Lloyd S. Bastian, and is described as the Southeast Quarter of Section 31, Township 117, Range 61.

I do not know when Grandma Starr came, but she was here in the winter of 1881, and had her home along the creek, where Earl Crook now lives, south of the highway.

Our neighbors to the north were a family by the name of Kerns who came from Chatfield, Minnesota in the spring of 1880. The family consisted of a widow and five children: William, the oldest, then John, Lucinda, and the twins, Ed. and Elmer. They all took up land except the twins who were only fifteen and too young. The neighbors to the south of us were a widow, Mrs. Yauney (on the Southwest Quarter), with two sons, William, a widower, and Henry, and two daughters, Lonora and Hattie. Her married daughter, Mrs. Lawer Fenny, lived on the Southeast Quarter. Mrs. Lawer had four sons, Robert, Will, Arthur, and a younger child whose name I do not recall. They moved away soon. Mrs. Yauney, with Henry and Lonora, moved back to Michigan. Mrs. Yauney, the grandmother, died soon afterwards. Henry then took care of Lonora until she married Mr. George Keller.

Father bought the Southwest Quarter (Grandmother Yauney's), and Edward J. Blain bought the Lawer quarter. The Yauney's quarter is now my sister Eva's quarter.

Excerpt from article in Aberdeen American–News

April 19, 1945,, by

Dwight Coursey.

The old Rose country store, located two miles east of the present town of Brentford, was operated by Mr. and Mrs. James Smith and their family. They had come from Brighton, Michigan. Mr. Smith was a good musician. He played the violin, and was a good vocalist. When the postmaster, a young lady known as "Prairie Rose" married, the Smiths also operated the Rose postoffice.

As the town grew, in addition to a general store and a postoffice, a blacksmith shop was added, and John Herman, a pioneer doctor, located there.

Through the years, the Smiths and their descendants, beginning with one quarter of land in 1882, were able to acquire forty quarters of land, evidence of the business man—farmer combination that prevailed in this prairie territory where stick-to-it iveness and enterprise could pay off from the fertile 'black gold'.

OUR TRIP TO DAKOTA, APRIL 21, 1881

By John Dawson.

Bought our tickets to St. Peter, Minnesota. Started from Port Huron on evening train. Arrived in Chicago at ten o'clock a.m. Started from Chicago at 10:30 and arrived in St. Peter about eight o'clock a.m. Saturday. Found Hotel Northwestern.

It is a pleasant little town. Minnesota River on a rampage. The railroad is flooded, and the river is still on the rise. Monday, April 25, railroad clear to Sleepy Eye. We found about five hundred persons waiting to go west. The immigrants were a tough looking set. Thursday, we left Sleepy Eye on a construction train and went to within a few miles of Lamberton, to the Cottonwood bridge which we walked across the stream on stringers to Lamberton, where we stayed over night. We left there and walked to Tracy. We left there and walked along the railroad track and stayed with a farmer over- night, Captain Cutts. There were six of us now tramping and we had a bed on the floor, made of blankets and robes.

We walked nearly to Balaton where we took the construction train to Aurora. We had dinner. I was so lame from walking that I could scarcely get along. Sunday, May 1st, we attended church. The train came in from the East with a few passengers on board, sometime in the night. Monday, May 2nd, the freight train came in with a few cars of live stock, some were going north of Huron forty miles to Spink County.

May 3rd, the last train run to Volga. May 5th, left Aurora on freight and "beat our way' 'as far as Volga, when we took the express and ran as far as Dry Lake and waited until twelve o'clock to be transferred. Then ran back to Volga and slept in the car until morning. We started from Volga at eight o'clock a.m., and ran out to the Lake and walked across. We took the train and arrived at Huron at 4 p.m. on Friday, the 6th. On Saturday, the 7th of May, we leave Huron for Redfield. We hired a rig for which we paid $3.00 each, Leharbs, and John Irwin and I. The land along the road between these two places is somewhat light, some good soil twenty miles north of Huron. Like the looks of this place very well. Sunday, strolled around on the prairie. It looks good. Monday, the 9th we went out southwest of Redfield on Turtle Creek about seven miles from the above named village, where we took up claims on unsurveyed lands. Lots of persons locating and more coming. Wednesday, the 11th, helped sod up Myers. I got through at 3 p.m. Rogers came here. Archie Leomer came with him. He knows more about Dakota than any person that lives here. Houston Carter, Charles and I were running out our lines today. I am well pleased with mine. Crossed the Turtle Creek by stripping pants and boots. We had a jolly time, and got back at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 14, 1881. Helped Myers plant some potatoes and set currants and berries. Went three miles north and looked at oxen. They want $125. for a yoke and they are thin and small in flesh. Commenced work on our claim, and we were much pleased with the appearance of the soil.

May 17, Rained all afternoon and all night. May 18. Cleared up, and Charles Irwin and I made garden. The 19th, planted potatoes and corn. Have a nice piece broke. May 23, started from Redfield to go back to Michigan for my family and Charles Irwins. It took about thirty-six hours to get from Huron to Chicago. Got to father's May 27th.

At Memphis, it took to June 22nd, to get business settled and get our car loaded with stock and furniture. Michael Morin took our gear through. Started from Port Huron and arrived in Chicago at 9 a.m.

June 23, Left there at 10 a.m. and arrived in Huron at 7:30 p.m. Morey met us at the station. My family and Erwin went up to Redfield on stage with Mr. Morey. Car came in June 28th. Railroad had track laid as far north as the small hill north of Hitchcock. I paid $10. to have the car run as far as track was laid. Left Huron, ran a little north of Huron, and laid up for the night. A little incident occurred with the conductor. He tried to collect two fares from me and I would not pay but one fare. He said he would put me off the train. I told him to do it, and I would walk back to Huron and see about it. In the morning I went to the engine. The fireman was steaming up. He saw me take a book from my pocket and write something in it. He asked me if I were the man the conductor had an argument with. I told him "Yes". He reported to the conductor that he believed that I took down the number of the engine. There was nothing too good for me after this. He had his men make a bridge with this so that we could unload our stock, and also helped unload the car. We coupled our wagon together, put a load on it, and started across the prairie to the northwest, and came out about when we expected to with our load and stock. Got Comer to bring a load up for me. They called this place Clarkville. We started at 6 p.m. and camped about ten miles from here.

Friday, July 1, started at daylight and got to K. L. Hassel's about 8 a.m. Started Comer's tramp back at 1 p.m. Charles Irwin went with him and brought the rest of the goods to our claims. We were very busy for some time getting our new home straightened up and breaking the prairie. On the 11th of July, we sowed turnips and buckwheat. In fact, everything that we put in the ground seemed to grow. We had planty of rain and lots of work to keep us busy. Had to build sod stable and get some cottonwood poles from the lake to support the roof. We never enjoyed ourselves better in our lives. My health was poor when I came out here, and I got quite hardy.

We were on the claim about two years, and then moved to Redfield. I worked a short time for James Huston in the lumber yard, then got a job from Baggie and Greenman in the store. We used to drive out in the country on Sunday, and often when we came to a field of corn I would say "that farmer came from Iowa or Illinois." My wife would say, "How do you know?" "Because there are no weeds in his corn. Or maybe I would say "That man came from Michigan or some eastern state, because his corn is full of weeds."

The winter of the deep snow I drove down the railroad track south of Redfield, and came to a house where they had twenty steps made to get out on the prairie, and that spring when the snow went off, young Ball down near Tulare was drowned where he cut hay the year before.

We left Dakota January 1, 1899 and we had spent eighteen years there. We enjoyed those years of our life as much or more than any other. For eighteen years, we had a great number of dear kind friends whom we miss and often wonder where they all are now.

When we went to Dakota, our family consisted of my wife, Bertha, our daughter, sister-in-law, Miss Katherine Burns, and myself. When we had been there for two years, my wife got so homesick that she went home for a visit. I told her she could stay as long as she wished, but in about four weeks she was ready to come home. She was never homesick after that.

(January 20, rained all day.)

MY FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE IN SOUTH DAKOTA

By: Harry Eenigenburg, 7 West 11th Place, Chicago, Illinois

In the early months of 1882 the Chicago Chronicle was advertising free land for homesteaders in the James Valley in South Dakota. This resulted in a mad rush of land seekers. Many small groups were organized throughout the states to take advantage of this opportunity.

I, being a carpenter, was invited to join a group of German farmers who wanted someone to build their buildings. Mr. John Meyer, the leader of this group, secured a location in Redfield, and I agreed to meet him October 5, 1882 and settle with them. I was twenty-two at that time.

I left Chicago on the 14th of October and reached Huron on the 15th where we had to change cars for Redfield. The only depot at Huron was a boxcar on the ground, and a small freighthouse nearby. The city of Huron looked like a small mining camp, with a few houses and stores and no trees or graded roads. At two o'clock in the afternoon, our "Hinky Dink" train came. It had a small engine with one passenger coach and three boxcars. At four o'clock in the afternoon we landed in Redfield. A big burly looking man met me and asked if I belonged to the Meyers party. I said "Yes", and he said "Well, I am Hiram", He took my suitcase which I had loaded with food, to his rig, which was a light buggy drawn by two ponies. It was six miles to his ranch. His house was a one story shack about 16'x20' in size, with only one small window. His furniture consisted of a bed, a few chairs and a bench, no stove or lamp. For light, he used a candle. As he unlocked the door, two small boys came running out. They were about six and nine years of age and the younger was crying for his mother, who had died about six weeks before, and had been buried forty feet from the shack. The oldest child, a girl of twelve years, had been sent by Hiram, her father, to live with a neighbor five miles away. The two boys he kept locked up while he was away, sometimes for two or three days at a time, locating people between Redfield and Clark Center.

Hiram began to weep when I scolded him because the boys had no shoes, or stockings and were cold. He wanted me to take them to live with me, as he thought I was rich. I told him it was his duty to care for them. The next day when we went to locate my homestead, he again locked up his boys.

We passed the site where Frankfort is now built. They were starting the first shed, and hauling their lumber from Redfield by teams. We went to Clark where I bought clothes for Hiram's boys and sent him back with them. I then took the train for Watertown and arrived at the land office at four o'clock. The clerk at first refused to let me file on land as he thought I was too young. After an argument he finally permitted me to do so. My first six numbers were taken but the last one was open. I took that, and it happened to be the Lilac Farm, so-called because in the spring of 1884, I planted in the Southwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 115, Range 61, six hundred lilac plants, which grew and bloomed for fifty years. I paid the clerk fourteen dollars fee at this time.

That evening I took the train for Chicago. On the following February, with my new tool chest, I again left for Frankfort. We were snowbound at Gary, South Dakota, so did not arrive in Frankfort until March first. To my surprise, Frankfort now had twenty new buildings, some still uncompleted, but all started since the previous October. The town was full of people, lively, and there was much gambling and drinking. The only hotel was the "Howard House", and we had to pay $4.00 a day to stay there, and had to sleep on the floor. After three days I loaded my wagon with provisions and a Mr. Warren took me to my claim.

The month of March, 1883 was a cold dreary month and it snowed almost every day. Homesteaders had filed on land all around and they came at the same time with their emigrant cars. As there was a shortage of food, cars were ordered to be sidetracked until more food arrived. As a result, the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad sidetracked over sixteen hundred cars and held them from two to four days. When the cars arrived in Frankfort later, there was no place to go so wagon boxes were turned upside down and people lived in them. Straw was put on the ground, and horse blankets were used to keep people warm. At this time emigrants parked on the south side of the railroad tracks in Frankfort, for over two blocks. Women and children suffered greatly until they could move into their own sheds on their own claims.

April was cold and rainy. About April 20 I completed a barn for Christ Meyer, it was only about twenty-eight feet wide and thirty feet long, but the two Meyers families moved in as soon as it was finished. There were seven adults, five children, six horses, and one dog living in that barn, and we were thankful for the shelter. I played my accordion and we sang "Captain Jinks". As I had lived alone the previous month on my claim, without seeing anyone, this was a happy occasion.

We talked with a Swede who was walking to his claim twenty-two miles from Frankfort. He carried his trunk which contained all of his belongings strapped to his back. It was a large old-country style trunk, built like a strong box, and must have weighed two hundred pounds. He slept at night alongside this trunk. It took him two days and a night to make this trip.

On the Meyer claim I built John Meyer a barn, then the old man's house, and then John's house. Carl Schultz was waiting for me as he was living in a shed eighteen by twenty-four feet, with his wife in one end and his mules in the other. This barn was the birthplace of their first child, a little girl.

Carl dug a cellar for his house. It was eighteen by twenty-two feet. He and I then laid the foundation, first floor, and made the frame of the house the first day. The next day Carl tore down the shed and we used the boards for the house. Before we could accomplish much, it started to rain, and rained for two days. During this rain Mrs. Schultz sat in the cellar holding the baby and an umbrella over them, and wrapped in blankets. Carl and I managed to sheet up the whole house with boards. We then put up the stove and started the fire. The baby was kept in a clothes basket.

When we were having supper we heard someone call. It was Will Crane who said he was lost. I laughed and said "You are not lost, this is the Carl Schultz place and you live right down the road". Will said, "I passed here this morning and never saw a house; what do you do? build one a day?"

About a year later the Schultz's had a second child, which died three months later. I made the coffin for it, and we buried the baby in the garden near the house.

Carl and his family stayed in Spink County six years and then moved back to Lansing, Michigan. He died in 1923, his wife in 1925, and his daughter in 1928. Thus our old friends are laid away but their souls live on.

By Eenigenburg

Chicago, Illinois, January 28, 1936

N. S. Cook,
Frankfort, South Dakota

Dear Sir:

Your brother from St. Paul and I arrived in Frankfort in March, 1883, in the same party. However at that time we did not get very well acquainted. Now on account of my writings in the Times-Record of Doland he has written me a letter reminding me that we were in the same group in 1883 in Frankfort.

At that time I did a lot of building for the farmers fifteen miles south of Frankfort, and I did all of my buying there. I often heard your brother's name mentioned at that time, but I never met him. I was twenty-two years old at that time, and I was so young looking that I was called "Harry the Kid". At first, they would not let me file in the land office because they said I was too young. After I raised "hob" with them, they let me file on my homestead.

I have had lots of experiences in Spink County and I still have many relatives living there. Some of them are the Dearborns and the Byrnes. I was planning to go out there for a visit but my eyesight failed so I could not go.

You have heard of the "Lilac Farm". That was my farm, and I hated to leave it because it was such a nice one.

In the early days from 1883 to 1887 I knew everyone in Doland and Frankfort, but in 1887 we had hot winds that spoiled our crops, and prices were very low. I could make a lot of money with my carpenter work in Chicago so I went there. I did make a lot of money, but taxes were high and then inflation made me lose everything I had, even my home. As I am now seventy-six years old. I am not going to worry about it.

I often think of South Dakota and the many friends that I still have out there. They write to me and keep me posted on happenings.

Very respectfully yours,
Harry Eenigenburg.

EARLY HISTORY OF SPINK COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA IN 1882 AND LATER.

by Harry Eenigenburg

Dear Friend:

This is a copy of a letter I sent to my friend, Albert Fryer—I thought you might be interested:

In recalling my early experiences and movements in connection with South Dakota, they are as follows: I have always said, the best four years of my life were the first four years that I spent in South Dakota. I enjoyed them immensely, and if it had not been for the hot winds that blew up in 1886, I think I would have stayed, but getting in debt, I became afraid, knowing that I could make a lot of money in Chicago at my trade.

The way I got started: in 1881-1882, the Pullman Car Co. located here in Roseland, and built their factories, which brought on a great building boom. I had already learned my trade, so hired about six men to help me. My earnings mounted to $250. a month, which was big money at that time for a kid, as I was at that time. People told me I was foolish to quit such a chance of making money, as I was a champion shingler and lather. My quota for a ten hour day was either six M shingles or 150 yards of lathing. What the people said did not worry me.

While on the train going home I met John Meyers and his father just coming back from South Dakota. John said, "Say, Harry, why don't you go to South Dakota and take up a homestead in our neighborhood, then you could build our buildings and you will have a nice farm besides all our work." I knew I could not make very much money out there, but I liked the idea of getting a big farm for nothing, besides the adventure appealed to me. Well, I spent that evening with John and his father and they persuaded me to go. John wrote a letter to Hiram Sumpter at Redfield to pick me up and locate me close to them. (He had located them also.)

On October 15, 1882, I landed in Redfield at four o'clock and Hiram met me. We went to his shanty six miles away for the night. He was a Grand Army man, had lost his wife about six weeks before, leaving him with three children. With the help of some neighbor, they buried her about forty feet away from his shanty. He gave the twelve year old girl to a farmer named Warden, the two boys, six and nine, he kept with him. They had no heat in the shack and the only light was from a half window about six feet high. He would lock those two children in that shanty with a bag of crackers, some cheese, and a loaf of bread, and be gone two or three days at a time, as he was locating people between Clark Centre and Redfield, the railroad not having been built between these two points as yet. When he returned, the children were naturally cold and hungry. I had a suitcase full of food so on the day that he and I left for Clark, I fed them up good in the morning, and we left them food for a couple of days, but not before I saw that they had plenty to eat. When we reached Clark, I bought shoes, stockings and anything else I thought they could use and told Hiram to go back and fix the kids up and take them to Redfield, and to look up a good boarding place where they would be taken care of, and to never leave them alone again. He began to cry and said that he could not care for them, and wanted me to take them. I said I couldn't do that, but that he could, and you bet he did.

On the way to Clark we passed the place where Frankfort is built. They were just building the first shed for their horses, having to haul the lumber from Redfield. We traveled all day and by night we reached Kelley's Ranch and stayed there, but did not see one shanty all day. I wrote down seven quarter sections in our neighborhood to draw from in the land office.

Well, by eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the next day Hiram and I reached Clark. We bought all the clothes for the children, sent him back to them telling him to do as I told him. I took the train for Watertown arriving at the land office about four o'clock in the afternoon. My first six numbers were taken, and as luck would have it, I got the last one. I left for Chicago that night, very happy. I arrived home, and built one more house, then quit. On February 26, I left for Frankfort as the road was completed, arriving there on March 1st, 1883. I found Frankfort had over twenty buildings all built since October 15th. Of course, they were not plastered or finished, but they were all doing business and plenty of it, as the town was overrun with people. The only hotel was the Howard House, and we had to pay $4.00 a day and sleep on the floor with our clothes on. They had a large cellar under the building where they gambled. I saw greenbacks on the tables three inches high, and booze galore. I landed there early Sunday morning so after breakfast I asked a fellow if he knew of anybody located about eighteen miles southeast of town. He said, "Yes, Mr. Ed. Fryer, who at the time was sick in the baggage room of the depot. I went to see Ed. and he was glad to see me. He asked me if I knew a fellow by the name of Philip Heintz. I said, "Sure, he's my pal. "Well," Ed said, "I filed on his claim, or someone else would have done it. I wrote to Philip, also to John Meyer, and told them that Philip had lost his claim. I also told Meyer that I was going to my claim on the 3rd, and would stay there until he came."

Well, on Monday I bought everything I needed, enough to last about two months. On Tuesday, I hired Mr. Warren, he had a big wagon, and we loaded the wagon with lumber, four bags of coal, a stove, trunk, groceries, hardware, a gun and a dog. We passed only one shanty on our way over, so I was the first settler there. It was raw and cold, and snowing a little all the time, but as Warren had a map we could follow the section line stones and arrived there by two o'clock P.M. Warren went right back. I nailed up a shelter for the night, then the next day I built my shanty. I worked hard. In the evening I filled my lamp, set up the stove and made myself some hot coffee. My dog was good company, gave me somebody to talk to. It reminded me of the story of Robinson Crusoe. I thought, the first fellow that comes along, I am going to call him Friday. Well, I saw a couple of coyotes and some bald eagles, but nobody came. I would walk up Phillips Hill to see if I could see anybody coming, but nobody showed up. It was a bad month, snowing all the time. My ravine, which was about sixty feet away from my shanty, had three feet of water frozen over, but I had no skates. I cut a hole through the ice which gave me lots of water. It was full of alkali, but I didn't taste it, and after drinking quite a bit of it, I got terribly sick. This happened around the 20th of March. For five days I could hardly move during which time we had an awful snow storm. On March 25th, Meyer and Heintz came over to see me. I was still in bed. When they saw how sick I was, they put my clothes on and bundled me up in the bobsled and took me to town to the doctor. Everybody rushed in to see the dead man. My face was black; I had been frozen, besides being full of that alkali poison. The doctor worked hard on me for a couple of hours, then they took me over to Mr. Mercer's attic where I stayed a week, until I was able to be taken to my shanty. Just then, Ed Fryer and another fellow had Charley Hayack's house to build on your old farm. Ed. asked me to help, and I did so. The following week Meyers brought out lumber for the old man's barn and Ed. helped me to build it. We boarded with Mr. Allison, who had just moved in his new house, so the two Meyers, Phillips, Charles Kitzman, and myself all lived in the barn. We had lots of fun. I would play an accordion and old man Meyer would sing German songs. He was a jolly old man.

I built John Meyer's barn next, then the old man's house, then John's house, then Carl Shultz's house, and a few other jobs. I got twenty acres of land broke and paid $3.00 per acre. I had my well dug thirty-four feet deep which gave me eighteen feet of good water. The water broke in at night and was so full that we had to bail it empty with big tubs on the windlass, because the well had to be curbed up with prairie stones from the bottom up to make a good job. It took six men to do the job, two well diggers, Henry K., and Charley K., Phillip and myself. It cost me $120.00 and was well worth the price.

On July 23rd, old man Meyer and myself went to Frankfort for a load of lumber. About six miles from home, we ran into an awful hail storm. It was an awful sight. We managed to get our horses' tugs loose, and then tried to hold them. The horses carried us through the air for about one hundred fifty feet, the hail knocking us senseless, and the horses ran away. In about twenty minutes time the hail was at least fifteen inches thick on the ground. I rushed back to the wagon, got knocked down three different times. I finally reached it, and crawled under. Poor old Meyer took in the whole storm. As soon as the storm was over, the sun came out hot and the whole country looked like an ocean. Some of the hail stones were as large as goose eggs, others the size of hen eggs. About two hours later our horses were brought back to us by two farmers who had caught them. They were cut up quite a bit and so were we. We managed to get to town to get our lumber. The Chicago papers said that Christ Meyer and his carpenter were almost killed in a hailstorm that struck Spink County, South Dakota. Then came the inquiries from home, "Were you in it?" I liked that part of the country fine minus the hail storms.

Philip and Charley went back to Chicago about November 1st. I left November 15th, arriving home to find my mother very sick. She died on December 8th, her 65th birthday. I left again on March 1st for South Dakota with enough money to build a house, barn and to buy a span of horses. I rented my farm to John Ton. In August, 1884, he bought a farm and moved on it. That winter while in Chicago I met a lady that wanted to buy a farm to hold for her children. She said, "If you hear of a good cheap farm, let me know." I said I would. Well, Abe Kammer wanted to sell his claim which joined mine for $1200.00. I wrote to the lady and recommended it. About two months later, she sent her daughter to buy it. She sure looked good to me and she liked the country too. I asked her to marry me and we went to Rev. Samuel Hoy, and were married. It was easy to get married there, as you didn't need a license. We, being the first couple to get married on the plains, we wanted to have a wedding, so I invited everybody to come to the house which was on the Southwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 115, Range 61, on June 18th, 1884. Believe me, they found the place. We had about sixty people there; some went home that evening, others stayed over night. They sure had a good time. I told the crowd that as long as I had been the first settler, I should be the first to get married. Well, we are still married over forty-nine years, and hope to make the fifty mark and some more.

In the fall I bought Philip Heintz's team of horses, and hired him to do my fall plowing and to haul my lumber from Doland. I had a schoolhouse to build, a barn for Joseph Hoy, barn and granary for Mr. Allison, and a granary for Ed. Fryer. My wife and I came back to Chicago for the winter. Bob Framton took care of my horses, as Philip and Charley came back too. We visited with our folks; then in March, 1885 I bought a horse, cow, some household goods and loaded up a car in Thorton and started for South Dakota. My wife, her sister Annie, Emil, her brother, and a friend, Peter Frederick, went n the train. We were happy to get back here; Dakota looked mighty good to us.

Then I built Ed. Fryer's house and he went back to get his bride from Woodstock, Illinois, the first thing, and your brother George stayed with us. I pitched right in and did a lot of work on my farm, broke a lot of prairie, planted a lot of trees, such as lilacs, box elder, cottonwood, and white ash, besides a lot of garden shrubbery. Everything grew fine. My father-in-law paid us a visit, and he liked it so well he bought a farm near John Hoy's. I built a house and barn for him, also a small house for Mr. White, Ed's father-in-law, on the farm your father bought. In 1886, I built a large house for your father on the same farm, also a house for Mr. Heintz. Then came the hot winds that took nearly all our crops. That part of the country sure was put on the blink; most of the people went back East flat and in debt. I stayed until the fall of 1887, sold out to Gust Wahl for $900.00 and no money; that was the personal property. Gust stayed eleven years on my place and did well; then he moved north. I sold the farm for $1500.00 in 1899; since then I have lost track of that country. Occasionally someone calls on me and tells me something about the place. I lived out there for five years, and those years meant more to me than all my boyhood days. I worked for everybody and liked everybody, and always felt I had a lot of friends in South Dakota. I have lived here for forty-six years, saw much prosperity, did a lot of work, made a lot of money, but all in vain. My wife's sister, Annie, from Isabel, South Dakota, writes me that the grasshoppers eat up all her crops every year, so now she raises turkeys who in turn eat all the grasshoppers, then she sells the turkeys. I had a friend visiting me from Kansas and she says for every kernel of grain she plants, there is a bug waiting, and we say, for every dollar we earn there is a crook waiting, and he sure gets it too.

Prosperity here went mad, and inflated property to such a height that it busted and the bottom fell out. For example, one store for sale in 1922 for $16,000. sold in 1926 for $82,000. The taxes followed the inflation up, but would not come down and the property was doomed and lost. Taxes kept on mounting; rents disappeared almost entirely; our shops and factories closed; people have been out of work for years; many of them stand in the bread line and the city's government still keeps on squandering and stealing the money. Our city of Chicago has today $230,000,000. of back taxes uncollected and will never get it. Doing business here is very stern for competition is so keen. People try the impossible to make a living. When I think of our old neighborhood in South Dakota, all the Fryers, Meyers, Hayecks, Hoys, Heintz, Kitzmans, Allisons, Briggs, Durkins, Bob, Gus and Archie; Al Hoy was the life of the threshing season with his tractor engine pulling his separator and tank wagon from farm to farm. Those were the good old days. The first few years were the best. We would have match ball games and fishing parties. In 1883-84-85 were the best socially. People got acquainted. You missed a lot of what we had as you came in 1886, but I guess you had some fun too.

Well, Al, I hope to make you people a visit next spring. Of course, the older people are all gone, but I knew a lot of the younger set. I want also to see the dear old homestead which I enjoyed for several years, the trees and the shrubbery which I planted. I suppose you will laugh at this long letter, as it is a mixture of early history, experiences and admiration of good old days never to return. This country is deteriorating right along, and life is ebbing fast. I will be 74 years old this fall and can hardly believe it, as I am still very active. I will not ask you to answer this letter as I will write a shorter one some day and ask you to answer it.

My early memory of South Dakota is still very clear. In 1883 we traded in Frankfort, and the business crew were Mr. Palmer, Cal Poster, Bill Foster, Mr. Howard, Graves, Jed and Joe Emery, Joe Labrie, Werner, Kirkham, Pierce, Archie Smith, Petibone, and several others. In 1884, we traded in Doland, our crew being Mr. Barlow, McMaster, Fargo, Brown, Ardell, Hassinger, Johnson, Art Lawrence, Hod Brown, Watters, Turner, Mr. Howe, Mr. Kornes, and others. I suppose they are all gone except a few of the younger ones. Our old neighborhood was well supplied with young ladies right from the start. There was Miss Frankie, Myrtle Hoy, Hannah Wahl, Lucy Perkins, Nellie Framton, Frances Gardner, Annie and Mary Phillips, Lizzie Heintz, and the Fryer girls. That sure speaks well for a farming community. By the way, I understand they have all been picked up too. Well, such is life, and it's busy scenes. I think I'll draw to a close with this epistle, for when we meet I sure will have many questions to ask you, so be prepared, Al.

As ever, your friend,

Harry Eenigenburg,
7 West 111th Place,
Chicago, Illinois,
December, 1933.

REMINISCENCES OF ESTHER EVANS

My parents came to Beotia Township in 1885, and located across the road from the Beotia postoffice. My grandfather and two uncles had come to Dakota Territory earlier, with my grandfather filing on a tree claim, and my uncles on homesteads. My parents came to live on this tree claim, and my father, later, filed on this as a homestead. On the road between our home and the Johnson's was the route taken by the Indians when they traveled from the Sisseton Reservation to the Crow Creek Reservation. The sight of these Indians, with the squaw sitting in the back of the wagon, the ponies running loose, was very interesting to me.

Outstanding events I recall were the annual picnics held on Armadale Island, (Old Settlers' Picnics, and Fourth of July), when all the relatives got together and spread tablecloths on the grass, and all sat around and had delicious picnic dinners.

BOYHOOD MEMORIES OF A FORMER REDFIELD CITIZEN

Frank Christian Hagman — Watertown

The name of Hagman is well known in Spink County, because several generations of that family have lived there. The first to arrive were John and Eva Hagman, in 1880, and his brother Christian and wife Margaret, in 1882, all from Wisconsin. There were nine sons and two daughters in John's family, and in Christian's (my father), there were four sons and six daughters.

John and Christian lived on adjoining farms about three miles northeast of Redfield where Turtle Creek empties into the James River. On my father's farm, there was a large grove of native elm and ash, also wild plum and chokecherry trees grew there. People came from far and near to pick the fruit of the latter when it was ripe. This grove became the favorite spot for family picnics and camping grounds for religious groups. Living near the river we were always able to fill our ice house, so ice-cream was the common dessert for us. The ministers at the Camp Ground appreciated that ice-cream too.

The County seat fight which was a serious matter had its humorous side too. As some Redfield men had taken the County records from the Court House at Old Ashton, they feared trouble and were on the alert. On Sunday night we were at the Methodist Church and the minister had just started his sermon when a man rushed in and said the people were coming from Ashton to get the records. All the men ran from the church to the hardware store to get axes and guns to stop the invasion. Imagine our surprise when we learned that the noisy crowd was only a herd of cattle clattering over the bridge!

The memory of the great blizzard of January 12, 1888, will always be very vivid in my mind for I am one of the few now living, who was out in that storm. The January snow had been heavy but the cold was not intense on the bright morning of January 11. In the evening, however, a heavy, wet snow began to fall. Father said he hoped no one would have to be out in it, but soon two neighbors knocked at our door and said their bob sled, filled with coal and provisions, had tipped over on the creek bank. Of course the men stayed all night with us and the next morning one suggested that if my brother Bert and I would like some candy we should go with them to the sled. We had been there just a short time when I saw a strange sight. A great wall of solid white masonry seemed to be coming toward us from the North.

I shouted to the men that a terrible blizzard was coming and we all rushed down the creek bank which led to our farm. The snow was like flour and filled our mouths and eyes, choking and blinding us. In our barn we found Father frantically tying harness reins and clothes lines together to go in search for us. His fervent "Thank God" showed his relief on seeing us safe. Had we been any other place rather than the creek bank, we never could have reached our home safely.

REMINISCENCES OF ORVA HAMMER.

When land was once opened to the public for homesteading, it did not take long for people to be sold on the idea of "Go West, Young Man, and get yourself a farm."

A scout was sent ahead in the person of E. L. Noyes, otherwise the group of seven families could not have filed on adjacent land.

E. L. Noyes, R. W. Towne, A. I. Towne, O. P. Towne, Mr. Kingsley, Wallace Akers, and John Akers, in the spring of 1881, left their families and came to Watertown by rail. Building supplies and materials and food had to be brought from Watertown, wagon drawn by oxen, and horses. Dwellings began to mushroom in Tetonka Township.

By the fall of 1881 the rest of the families arrived. At that time not all of the dwellings had been built, but enough to see them through the winter. The severity of that winter will ever be remembered by these pioneers. Contact with the outside world was almost nil. Food supplies ran low, so they ate the seed grain they had saved for planting in the spring. One of the group died. Little did they realize the struggle they faced in the lean years ahead. Many sold their belongings with which to leave the country.

The Sioux Indians in their journeys to and from the Sisseton Reservation were frequent visitors at the little store and Tetonka postoffice in the home of Mr. R. W. Towne. We attended the Indian Pow-Wow one July Fourth at Armadale Island, using our lumber wagons for transportation. One of the families donated a beef, which was cooked over a fire in the pit by suspending same on a pole run through the carcass. We had our choice of well done or rare, mostly the latter. My father went to Nebraska for a time, but soon returned, when times became more normal.

MRS. LUTIE B. HOLLAND

Mrs. Lutie B. Holland, in a comprehensive study of early days in the county has presented both in detail and in capsule form the hopes and fears, the methods of work, the compassion and friendliness, the hardships and the heroism of the people who built Spink County, and in so doing has preserved valuable historical material.

The following is a brief attempt to indicate the nature of the worthwhile contribution she has made to the historical content of the literature of the county. The diary of Mr. Newcomb which was made available to her also produced many interesting and valuable items.

Mrs. Holland related an incident concerning the family's arrival in Doland in 1883. They headquartered at the Brown Hotel temporarily. Her mother was amazed to learn that when the hotel washed new muslin sheets and hung them on the line to dry in cold weather they froze, and once when the wind came up the sheets broke in pieces on the line.

She recalled that when her parents celebrated their Tenth Wedding Anniversary (tin), the chief entertainment was playing charades, and that cake and peaches were the dessert prepared by her parents for the occasion.

Speaking of the dearth of reading material in the area, Mrs. Holland said that a copy of "Innocents Abroad" by Mark Twain was passed among the people of the community until it was thoroughly worn out, and a man whose neighbor was sitting with him all night because he was ill remarked that he didn't want him to stay again because he "read that funny book (Innocents Abroad) all night and didn't laugh once".

In discussing the schools of early days, she mentioned that they were often held in summer months, when the weather was more favorable. She paid tribute to her early training in phonics by saying that it has been of more use to her than any other one thing she had learned in school.

Mentioning the wrong concepts that pupils may inadvertently acquire she illustrated with a reader she had used which had pictures of a cat and rat, the illustrations for which were almost the same size, and her surprise upon seeing a rat some years later to discover that the book's illustrations had not given the correct idea of their relative size.

She learned the Spencerian Slant, a form of handwriting which aided pupils in becoming very good penmen.

Because there were so few materials available in the pioneer schools, older pupils often brought "Youth Companion" papers to use as readers. Each township adopted its own set of textbooks.

Croquet parties, dances, and Literary Societies, were the principal form of community entertainment.

Mrs. Holland described an interesting and useful skill which Mrs. David Brosseau contributed to her family, when she made oat straw hats, braiding the long straws into flat braid three-fourths of an inch wide. After moistening and braiding it, she rolled it flat with a rolling pin. Starting with a circle at the crown of the hat, she continued to shape and mold it as she sewed it together. The hats were durable and lasted for one or two seasons.

Mrs. Gustin had a loom and wove carpets for the people of the neighborhood.

Ferdinand Labrie, a carpenter at Turton, made a revolving tree for the community Christmas program one season, since the expected evergreen did not arrive by train. It was decorated with cranberries and popcorn. The treats for the families were in little red and white paper sacks. (It was at Christmas time, usually, that it was possible to get clusters of raisins on the stem, and fresh oranges.)

Mr. Cunningham, Mrs. Holland's father, had great faith in the pioneer doctor, Dr. F. M. Crain, and remarked to his family that if he became ill, "I don't want to pass out without Crain having a look at me." It so happened that Mr. Cunningham developed blood poisoning later in life at a time when Dr. Crain was then living in Redfield. The family summoned him, and Dr. Crain "pulled him through."

A community project in which the women cooperated was the making of a flag for the Fourth of July celebration. The stars were sewn on both sides of the field for particular attractiveness.

Early day photography was particularly good. Pictures taken by an early day photographer, Mr. Quiggle, are still very clear and unfaded after about seventy five years, as is also true of the work of some other photographers of the period.

Activities of the home and the farm were highlighted. For instance, steel knives and forks were used until 1889, by the Cunninghams and others. They had to be polished each day, sometimes three times a day, depending upon the food used. Brick dust was used for scouring, or ashes. Salt was served in cellars and dipped with a salt spoon. Teaspoons were placed on the table upright, in a spoon holder, and passed around.

Green coffee beans were bought, roasted and ground, and stored in cannisters. Later a popular brand, Arbuckle Coffee, was used.

Soap was frequently made from lard cracklings, and mutton tallow, the latter making a white and even-textured soap.

Many tea cups had handles on the sides and were low. Housewives preferred old wheat for making bread, because the new wheat did not make as white a product.

Flax straw was best for use in the straw burners, since it didn't burn fast, because of the oil.

The irons with wooden detachable handles which succeeded the sad-irons, were a big improvement and convenience for the housewife, because they could be set on hot coals and would then heat faster. It frequently took two people each ironing one-half day to complete the weekly ironing for the family.

Wedding dresses were sometimes made of Henrietta (a light weight wool).

In winter, members of the family wore red flannel undershirts (Canton flannel). Also home knitted heavy socks. Men wore felt boots, and long, large scarves to protect their faces from the snow and cold when they were "doing chores" or making trips to town. Buffalo coats, dogskin coats, storm serge were frequently worn.

Leggings were often worn, and they used heated stones, the size of a water pail, under robes in buggies to keep the feet warm. Milk stool seat often provided extra space in a buggy, and a dash lantern provided lighting for night trips.

In seasonable weather, children were barefooted at home and at school, but wore shoes and stockings to church if they possessed them. Some little boys wore trousers to church made of grain sacks.

Men, women, and children wore dress hats "for good".

Women often liked the basque style of dress, and wore black cashmere dohlmans trimmed with wide black silk fringe.

Then, as now, some of the farm people bought equipment together and shared labor. They had header barges, used straw buckers, bank cutters, spike pitchers, grain tanks, burned straw for fuel for steam engines when threshing.

One man made a forge of sod.

Mrs. Edsall's house was the cynosure of all eyes in the community, it was painted white, and none of the other houses had paint.

Mrs. Holland says of Mr. Newcomb that he was a humble Christian man who did much for everyone in the area. His diary reflects that despite the fact that he was not a robust man, he accomplished prodigious amount of work, and was also most generous in expending his energy and interest in behalf of his neighbors.
Following are some of the items from his Diary:

Dec. 8, 1884 – Heard Redfield people stole county seat from Ashton.
May 6, 1885 – Snowstorm – a blizzard.
Nov. 3, 1885 – Went to schoolhouse to vote on Constitution for Dakota. 300 bushels of turnips.
April 27, 1886 – Biggest snowstorm of season. Snow drifted six feet deep.
August 31, 1886 –– Hard frost.
Sept. 26, 1886 – 64 bushels of good potatoes dug.
Dec. 3, – 30 degrees below. Fifty attended croquet party and dance at home.
May 30, 1888 – Frost. Ox in neighbor's well–took from 6 p.m. until morning–(men working in shifts) to get it out.
Fourth of July – Celebration at Oak Gulch. Read Declaration of Independence. Most seemed to enjoy the day as much as in the States,

The Diary also contained many references to occasions when Mr. Newcomb had helped care for people in the community who were ill. Many times he would be called during the night after a full day of heavy farm work, but only once did he mention that he had felt almost too tired to go, but he did go, of course.

Mrs. Holland is to be highly commended for the excellent research done in assembling these memorabilia which should be carefully preserved to help people of the future understand something of the courage and stamina of those who have gone before them.

PIONEER HISTORY

By: R. J. Holland

Early Days Leading to the Settlement of Northville, Dakota Territory

During the summer of 1861, some soldiers were sent into this neighborhood on Indian affairs. While here, two died and a stone on the east bank of Snake Creek north of the first bridge west of Northville was marked with their initials in commemoration.

At that time it was so dry here that the Indians had gone from this place to find grass for their ponies. Evidence of the long drought period is shown at Lake Kampeska, also at Lake Traverse, where trees grew to be one foot or more in diameter. Since then, the Lakes filled with water, the trees died, and the stumps of these trees stood out in the water for many years.

In 1879-80 people came into this neighborhood from Watertown, Dakota Territory, by wagons drawn by ox-teams and horse-teams. They sometimes were stuck when crossing sloughs and creeks and would carry their load to dry land on their backs, then get their team and wagon out, reload the wagon and proceed. It took about ten days to complete the trip. They built sod houses and used the lumber for a roof, covering the roof with tar paper.

There was more than the usual amount of snow during the winter of 1879-80 and a trip to Watertown could not be made. In some instances, turnips and salt were all the settlers had to eat.

During the summer and fall of 1881, the Chicago & Northwestern railroad was built through Northville. A depot and section-house constituted the town. The agent took care of the mail and handled a few groceries until a store was built by C. D. Gilbert. From then on, the town grew rapidly.

In 1881 the land was surveyed to one-half mile west of town. In 1882 the surveying was done farther west, and people from almost everywhere unloaded at Northville, and founded homes on the raw prairie. Many people came by train, bringing their horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens, lumber, machinery such as walking plows, household equipment, etc. Others landed at Northville with their worldly possessions in trunks and boxes and only a few dollars in their pockets.

At first, church services were held in the depot with Edwin Martin as pastor, until the Wesleyan Church was built. Dr. Gill was the first doctor. Dr. John R. Thompson was the second doctor and for a long time the only one. Soon a bank was established by Mr. Bissle, with a capital stock of $500.00, which he loaned out at 10% and 12% interest, on short loans. W. H. Hoberton and Tom Jones did blacksmithing; Mariner, Humphery, and Mariner sold machinery; George Williams sold hardware; Joseph Elsom was the first postmaster; C. D. Gilbert had general merchandise; Dick Clark sold medicine, candies, etc.; Joseph Kellogg and Clark Davis filed on adjoining homesteads and built a claim shanty across the line. Clark Davis slept in his end, and the Kellogg family of four in the other end of the shanty.

As one walks into the Northville cemetery today, one becomes mindful of the personalities of those early settlers. To the left is a stone marking the grave of George W. Prentice, a bachelor, who grew to manhood in northern New York, and as a young man, went to Wisconsin. There he became a partner of George Meade in the lumber business. This work required many teams of oxen and horses as well as many men. Therefore, he brought men, teams, and machinery suitable for subduing the virgin prairie soil. George W. Prentice came to Dakota Territory in the spring of 1880. He took land here and farmed. During the winter months he worked at the lumber business in Wisconsin.

On the same lot is a stone marking the graves of his sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Holland, who came to Northville on March 17, 1882, with their three children, (Herman, Eugene, and Reuben). I, Reuben, was ten years old then. We had to stay over night in Huron. There were a good many people at the depot and we were told there was not much chance of getting a room at the only hotel. Those in authority told us to go into a part of the depot separated from the rest by glass panels. A good many of the immigrants put a quilt down on the floor and another over them, and went to sleep. However we were successful in securing a room at the hotel.

The next morning, March 19, 1882, we came to Northville. My uncle, Eugene Potter, met us at the station, with a team of oxen hitched to a wagon. We stayed at his place at first. His dwelling was a sod shanty about 12 x 16 feet, with a little addition about eight feet square, where their three boys slept.

On the 17th there was no snow, but on the 19th, 20th, and 21st of March, the snow came down so fast that one could not see out of doors. The snow was more than knee-deep. In the morning the sun shone brightly, and the snow melted rapidly.

We soon moved to a little board shanty. When it rained, which it did nearly every day or night, we took a good soaking. Many times I stood as straight as I could under a wide board, to keep dry. The man who had charge of the depot had filed on a quarter section west of Northville, and a half mile north, and built his claim shanty there. This was the shanty we stayed in while my father was building our house on the Northeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 120, Range 65, West. The land west was not surveyed at that time.

I have seen acres and acres covered with white geese, and at other times as many other kinds of geese and ducks, just clouds of them. The house father built for us was 16 x 20, with an attic and shingled roof. After it was built, he did carpentry work east of Northville. That summer the slough was at least one-half mile wide and up to one's chin in depth. On week ends my father held his clothes on top of his head and waded across.

In the spring of 1882, my uncle, George W. Prentice, let my father plant wheat on nine acres of land he had plowed in 1880. We used oxen belonging to my uncle, Eugene Potter, when he did our farming that spring. Father sowed the wheat by hand and I drove the oxen to level ground and also to cover the wheat after father had sowed the seed. When the grain was ripe, Father cut it with a cradle. We raked it with a hand rake like a garden rake, only larger, and made of wood, and bound it into bundles and shocked it. When it was threshed we had 324 bushels of wheat and sold it for 75¢ per bushel. That summer father hired the Buxton brothers to break 16 acres for our 1883 crop.

Sometime in the late spring of 1882, Biji Morry brought a load of flour into this neighborhood from Watertown. We were at William Waterbury's at the time, and when we first noticed his outfit it was so far away that it looked like a speck, but some of the men knew what and who it was, so went to meet him. It consisted of three or four pairs of oxen, hitched to a wagon, under a hayrack that was loaded with flour. The rack was covered with sacks of flour, then tier upon tier until it had the appearance of the roof of a house. Biji would sing out, "Hush-Wa-Haw"! "Come here to you", and snap his long stock-and-whiplash. To me, the sound was like a pistol shot, and the outfit started moving slowly along.

In the summer of 1882, we made hay by cutting grass with a scythe and swath, and raked it into windrows by hand, with a wooden rake. In the winter we cut slough grass above the ice and twisted it by hand into rolls or knots and used for fuel.

In the winter of 1882-83 I stayed with my cousin, Mrs. Hartwell Cady. They lived on another of my uncle's farms; in the summer of 1883 the men organized a school district and built a schoolhouse. From then on, we had eight months of school each year. Miss Ida Britton taught our first school. There were about twenty boys and girls in school. They were Herman, Eugene, and Reuben Holland, Sam, Ella, Flora Torrence, Will Thompson and Ira Clarke, three from Brown home, George, Perry, Veva Kellogg, Melvin Husted, and the Resleys, George, Jim and Scot and Lizzie; a little later there were the Ostanders, Inez, Edna, and Burt; the Workmans, Josephine, Ethel, and Mamie; Will Paton and Roy Kellogg. This was our country school.

Mrs. Burwash filed a homestead on the next quarter east of my father's. Later she married Jonas Bushell and his niece, Nora Bushell, stayed with them, and went to our school. One morning Nora passed our place as we were eating breakfast. It was a bitter cold morning forty below zero, with a strong northwest wind. When I was about half way to the schoolhouse, she was lying in the snow asleep. I took her by the hand and pulled her to a sitting position, then tried to lift her, but she was older and larger than I was. She did finally try, so that with my help she got to her feet. I wore a long broad scarf which I took off and put around her shoulders and her face so I could pull and in that way I kept her going towards the schoolhouse. We finally reached the school and the teacher took charge. Nora's face, ears, hand, feet and scalp were somewhat frozen. By noon she had become reasonably comfortable. It was a little more than a mile from our place to the school and I had to help her along for about half a mile. I scolded her and told her that she had to walk. She said she was so sleepy, she didn't want to go to school.

At that time the schools were not graded, so we did not graduate as they do now. They went to school until they found something else to do. Nora Bushell married her cousin and later moved to Washington State.

It was the year 1886 when my uncle, George Prentice died. We went to the funeral. It was a very cold day. We drove two horses hitched to a bob-sled, and we sat on the hay in the bottom of the sled, and covered ourselves with blankets; even so we were very cold. When we were about to cross the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad track the horses (Bob and Barney) stopped, turned their heads looking to the north. Father spoke to them to go on but they did not. The air was so full of frost that visibility was not more than twenty feet, but the horses heard the train and stood close to the track until the train passed. Then we went on our way.

I contracted the measles when I was sixteen years old (my birthday is Jan. 20th), but the ground was so dry that it was not frozen. At this time, my father had a team of bronchos and had them hitched to a walking plow and was out in the field trying to do some back-setting, plowing. On the first day that I was out of doors after having the measles, I saw those bronchos running around my father, round and round, and dragging the plow. My father just had one of the lead straps in his hand. I saw the danger of his losing his hold on the strap, for if he did the plow would surely strike him. I ran about one hundred rods against a keen northwest wind to help him. When I approached the horses, they stopped. I was seriously ill after this, but a persistent will to live helped me to survive.

Some of the things I remember about the storm of January 12, 1888. Herman, Eugene and I did the morning chores. On that beautiful morning, which was warm, no wind blowing, the sun shining brightly. My father fed the pigs their ears of corn; they rushed out of their nest which was deep in a large oat-straw stack, picked up the ears of corn, and rushed back, sometimes taking two ears in their mouths at once. They continued until the last ear of corn was taken. That was the last we saw of them until the evening of the third day.

We went to school as usual and not long after the school was called to order, the wind began blowing. The storm traveled about sixty miles an hour, reaching Huron about an hour after it struck here. It was not just a straight wind, and it was very penetrating, filling my clothes with snow, and sticking to my face and freezing there, and I could not see into the storm at all.

REMINISCENCES OF ROBERT LOVE, SR.

Thinking over the hard times of the pioneer years, one wonders how it was possible to raise, clothe, and educate the large families of those days. Interest rates were extremely high, often twelve or fourteen percent being charged on loans. The interest was taken out at the time the loan was made.

Proved-up land was often taken for payment for groceries. These grocery bills sometimes amounted to three or four hundred dollars. Sheriff's sales and foreclosures were common.

People who lived through the "Hungry Thirties" often wondered how the pioneers, who had less than they, survived.

REMINISCENCES OF ROSA A. LAMBERT

I was born in Bingham, Maine, August 22, 1853, of Scotch-Irish parents. My father served in the Civil War from 1862 until the close of the war. In 1866, when I was thirteen years of age, I moved with my parents to Stearns County, Minnesota, and here I acquired the "lure of the west."

In 1877, I went to Dakota Territory and located at Waubay where I built a log store. In 1878 C. B. Foster and I traveled along the James River and camped one night below Armadale. A Mr. Slack and his family and J. E. Humphrey came to our camp. C. B. Foster chose Armadale for his claim and J. E. Humphrey and I took claims a few miles further north of what was called Rondell. Mr. Slack and his family located a couple of miles further north.

The Indians caused us trouble and drove us out so we went back to Waubay and stayed there until December, 1878. J. E. Humphrey, Benzoan Slack, C. B. Rees, and I came back to Armadale the same month. The following April I moved the store from Waubay to Armadale. It was the first store in the county. Here I traded with the Indians in 1878 and 1879. Once in a while a missionary came and held services in the store.

In May, the Indians returned and made threats. In June, I left Armadale and went to Fort Wadsworth which is now called Fort Sisseton and reported to Major Crofton. He reported to General Torrey at St. Paul and was given orders to take troops to Armadale to protect the settlers. Lieutenant Burns, with a small command, came and took the Indians to Crow Creek Agency.

We had no more trouble with the Indians until August when they returned and held a big council. Major McLaughlin, Major Cressey and a man from Washington sent by the Government, met and conferred with the Indians. The latter were returned to Crow Creek.

F. P. Benjamin, from Kansas City, Missouri, had the mail contract from old Firesteel, South Dakota which was located on the James River, to Jamestown, North Dakota. He had a two-year contract. When his contract expired he was given another contract somewhere on the Yellowstone River.

Some of the early settlers around Armadale were: Mr. Whitman, who came from Pennsylvania and had a pre-emption four miles south of Armadale; Mr. Tiffany; Dan Sheldon, the postmaster who had a claim joining Armadale on the north; and John S. Bingley.

REMINISCENCES OF THEODORE LOWER

Taken from a Diary Dated April 15, 1879.

"About ten to fifteen rods from the Council Stone was a mound on which a post had been placed. This was known as "Old Look-Out," and from here I could see a great distance in every direction. I camped on a pretty site on the east bank of the James River. The river runs below and the valley stretches away to right and left, while east is the rolling prairie."

Theodore Lower, a Native of Monroe County, Wisconsin, was the third child in a family of four children, born to Jefferson and Harriet J. Denton Lower.

As a boy, he worked in a mill of which his father was the foreman. In the spring of 1879, he and his father went to Watertown, Dakota Territory, arriving there on April 15th, and the father took land on Section 8, and Theodore on Section 5. They sent to Watertown for a ham, a sack of flour, an axe, a spade, and a few tin dishes. They then built a dugout on the bank of the James River and lived there until August 29th, when they made a larger dugout with a sod wall above ground on the father's land. This was used as their home until 1882 and then for twenty years as a blacksmith shop, withstanding floods and winds.

The father built a dam across the James River in 1880, and a mill was erected in the fall of 1881, known as the Clyde Mill. It was opened in 1882 and was used until 1887. The Clyde Mill was a busy little business place for years. Theodore was the first postmaster, in the postoffice established here in 1879. He was also a successful farmer, specializing in Poland China hogs.

He was married in 1885 to Miss Minnie Denton who had come with her parents to Clifton Township in 1881. Their children were: Edna, Edgar, Luella and Harriet.

THE LUXTON FARM

George B. German

As I walked out through the grove on the Clarence Luxton farm near Frankfort, I saw parked here and there among the trees gears of all types of old vehicles of the past eighty years. There was the old top buggy, a surrey, and wagon running gears of all types from the time of the first wagon. There were old sled runners and cutters too.

I was headed for the old house back in the trees where Grandfather Luxton once lived. Inside the house, I found antiques that would be precious in any museum, the old spinning wheel, an old wool carder, old riveting machines and magazines from the early days.

Then Tom, the great-grandson, showed me an old trunk that was hanging in the granary. It was suspended on a cable in mid-air so that no rodents could get into it. Tom said that he never really had a good look inside but he understood that there were old watches and articles in there.

Then Tom showed me the old cutter, just outside the granary, that his great-grandfather had made when he helped build stagecoaches in Pierre. His great-grandfather was a wagon maker by trade and helped build these vehicles in Pierre to help earn money to run his farm. He worked in the shop for five years and during that time the grandmother and the three boys, George, Tom, and Robert did the farming and lived in a sod house. The great-grandfather returned home from Pierre twice a year, in a cart he had fashioned out of two front wheels of an old stagecoach. To this he hitched an Indian pony and drove from Pierre to Frankfort to see his family. Many times while he was in Pierre his wife walked the twenty miles into Redfield for groceries. She crossed the James River at Fisher's Grove which was called "Fisher's Crossing." It was the only bridge at that time across the James River.

REMINISCENCES OF CLARENCE LUXTON

My father told of a man, Tracy Quinn, who picked corn on a ten acre field. When he came in from his work he had ten ears of corn.

Some of the early settlers I recall were: Michael C. and James P. Harlow, who came in 1879; Frank and Mel Starr; the Labries; the Klapperichs; Bastians; Craigs; Benedicts; Boubs; Ellis; Schones.

My father told us many times of the explosion at the Taylor farm. Several men were killed. My grandmother and a neighbor rode over to help, but the men in charge would not let them in.

Then too, he related the tragedy of the Barrs, when four young men lost their lives trying to recover the bucket in the well. The last words of the fourth victim were, "It's gas."

The German Methodists came to the Bastian school every other Sunday. Reverend William Klaus, father of I. N. Klaus of Redfield, and of Julia Klaus, of Redfield, was one of the early ministers.

The Grobe postoffice was located in the home of August Bastian.

Literary societies were held during the winter months in the schoolhouses and in private homes.

Each summer my father always had a haying crew and a harvest crew. For the most part, these men were the ones who came in on the side door pullman. In 1907 (I believe it was) we had a wonderful crop. I remember when we drove through the fields with our horse and buggy, the grain stood almost as high as the horse. Then one afternoon after we had started to cut the crop with our new binder (a new implement at that time), a heavy cloud came out of the northwest, a hail storm followed, and the harvest was finished for that year. It was heart-breaking for all of us!

REMINISCENCES

By: H. J. Noren

The following are incidents that pioneers have told us:

"It was in the spring of 1880 when my father and I came to Dakota Territory. The first winter was cold, and I would be awake at night and hear the howling of the coyotes, or the wail of a wolf. One night as I was coming home from a neighbors, a wolf followed me. In the moonlight I could see it was a large timber wolf. I was frightened for I had forgotten my gun. He followed me until I was about forty rods from my cabin, when he grew bolder and snarled at me. My first thought was to run, but I knew he would soon overtake me, so I turned and gave a blood-curdling yell. The wolf turned and ran. That gave me time to get home."

"The following week, my brother had a similar experience, with a buck. As he was crossing the field, a buck came into view and, seeing my brother's red sweater, chased him. When he was about eighteen rods from my brother, the buck snarled and lowered his head. My brother turned away and then faced him. The buck advanced. My brother did the same as before. The buck grew bolder and started to spring. Then my brother lay down and rolled over and over. This alarmed the deer and he ran away."

The pioneers traded wheat, corn, and sometimes spoiled meat for furs, hides, horses, and moccasins. Other necessities were obtained from Watertown.

L. J. Lower in his diary wrote as follows: "April 13, 1879. Arrived in camp about one o'clock. Followed the river about a mile. It is the most crooked stream I ever saw. I saw two flocks of ducks. Met a man with a team and wagon and we talked about the country. He showed me where a couple of men were living. Their homes looked like straw stacks. They were built of brush and hay laid upon piles. Went over and talked with the men and then we all went over to Hodges. On the way we passed a place where Indians had been buried, or rather left to decay. They had been placed upon a scaffolding made of poles but it had tumbled down and the bones lay scattered around. Went to the lodge which was nothing more than earth thrown upon a circle where the camp had been made. We sent to Watertown for supplies, a sack of flour, a spade and a few tin dishes. Built a dugout and lived there."

In 1882 two groups of people came from Illinois and settled in and near Ashton. One of these groups was from Atlanta. Some of the families were the Perritons, Downeys, Briers, Prices, and Worthingtons. The second group being made up of French Canadians. Some of the families of this group were the Blains, Beverhals, and Labries.

Old Ashton was five and one-half miles south of the present Ashton, on the banks of the James River. First George Bowman lived in a tent in a clump of Ash trees there, and then a colony house was built around it. It had dirt floors, with small rooms above for sleeping rooms. When Ashton became the county seat, the courthouse was built. It was a building of rough boards, about 18 ft. x 20 ft.

The country in 1879 was full of roving buffalo, deer, antelope, foxes, beavers, and wolves.

Near Mr. Lower's farm was a store and a mill. The mill was operated by J. Lower and the store by W. G. Turner. During the long winter this little store helped the settlers, but the supplies were exhausted before the winter ended.

Three miles southeast of Ashton a tent was set up and used for a store. Here the first church services in Spink County were held by Reverend Rogers.

Many of the settlers looked at three hundred twenty acres of land as a gold mine. The people who were inland from the river lived in sod shanties, and those along the river lived in dugouts. The roof was of logs with brush and dirt piled over them.

In October, 1889, there was a light snow but it soon melted. It was mild at Christmas and ducks could be seen, but snow came before New Years to a depth of from four to twelve feet. It is said that they never had a better time than they had that winter, when they went from house to house grinding wheat for one another. The houses were so cold that they wore overcoats and mittens even when they played cards.

One of the Indian burying grounds was about two and one-half miles northeast of Ashton along the banks of the James River. Skulls were found there.

Topic of Contest, "BEST REMEMBERED MEALS."

Family Times, Washington, D. C.

"BOY GROWS UP"

"Mr. O. A. Olson, Fargo, N. D., wins $2.00 for a prizewinning letter."

"When I was a young lad I was permitted to ride with father, once a year, from our Territorial homestead to our postoffice and source of supplies at Frankfort, Dakota Territory.

"Our conveyance was an old single-seated open buggy with an empty whip-socket, wobbly wheels, rattling spokes, and loose tires which had a tendency to pick up the dirt for the wind to hurl back at us with a choking effect. Our power unit was Gypsy, a frisky young mare with speed and poise, all decked out with a checkered fly blanket over the breast collar harness that was ornamented with all the nickel-plated spots and celluloid rings that were the order of the day. With Gypsy bowing her head, tugging at the bit, and leaving a streak of dust behind us, we arrived at the grocery store by noon to get the monthly mail and lay in a supply of the most needed items of food.

"Having had nothing to eat since an early breakfast except a few prune-pits that I had not taken time to crack while at the table, I was hungry enough to enjoy most any kind of a meal but the meal that I was about to have on this, my first trip to town, is the one I best remember.

"Having made such trips every month, the merchant knew just what father would want for lunch so he put up five cents worth of gingersnaps into a bag, took from his shelf a tall can of salmon with the words "Alaska Sockeye" printed on it in big letters, loaned us a can opener, two spoons and a butter-boat into which father emptied the salmon and set it on an upended cracker box near the back of the store, and located two other boxes for us to sit on. He rinsed the salmon remnants from the can, filled it with ice-water from the merchant's water cooler and our table was set.

"This was my first introduction to gingersnaps, salmon and ice-water (that is, in the summer time) and when I smacked my lips with enjoyment I marveled at the fact that there was anything in the world that could taste that good.

"The paper sack and the butter-boat were empty before my stomach was full, so I took up the slack with another can of ice-water and emitted a benedictory burp following my BEST REMEMBERED MEAL."
December issue, 1951.
O. A. Olson,
Fargo, N. D.

ONE DAY ON A TERRITORIAL HOMESTEAD

"Anton, wake up, it is after eight o'clock but it is still dark in the shanty and it has been creaking and shaking terribly so there must be one of those severe blizzards raging again," said Brita, his wife, a pale-faced, serious and sensitive woman in her late twenties.

"Ja," yawned Anton, a short broad-shouldered blue-eyed Norwegian. His head was capped with a bushy shock of stiff, sandy hair over a broad face that was decorated with a stubby, straw-colored mustache. He rubbed the sleep out of his eyes, jumped out of bed, lit the straw-burner and hopped back into bed to wait for the room to warm up.

Little Guri, their two-year-old daughter, was awakened by the commotion and looked cautiously over the edge of her basket which hung over her parents' bed to see what was going on, but said nothing.

"Is it safe to get up yet?" was soon heard from the upstairs or attic which served as sleeping quarters for their two sons, the older one, Oscar, was ten years old and the younger one, Gulbran, was seven.

"You had better stay in bed a while longer," answered their father, "it is still a little too cold down here for you to dress in comfort."

"Yes, but it is awfully cold up here and the snow has drifted in on our bed too," complained Gulbran, the younger son.

"Snow on the bed with the children sleeping in it, what do you think of that? Ugh, Anton, what kind of a country have you taken us to, anyhow? There used to be some cold weather in Norway, but I never heard of anyone finding snow on their bed in the morning," complained Brita in a sullen voice, arching her eyebrows perceptibly.

"There may not be many days like this, "answered Anton hopefully. "Tonight we will let the boys sleep downstairs. We can pull that long box out from in under the bed, in which you have been keeping your extra bedding in the summer time, and let them sleep there."

Soon the heat from "Thor," the straw-burner, could be felt in the room so Anton got up again, dressed and opened the front door to get a look at the weather, only to be met by a blast of snow of such density that he could not see a yard beyond the opening and with a wind so strong that he had difficulty in closing the door. "Whew, I guess that will be something to face when I have to go to the stable to do the chores," he said.

He took some long hay that he had brought in the day before and twisted it into bunches small enough so that they would fit the firebox of the cookstove, filling the teakettle in preparation for the good breakfast that he knew Brita would make.

"Is it safe now?" was again heard from the attic.

"Yes, come on down," said their dad.

The boys scrambled down a ladder, which was nailed on the wall, in their night clothes, and dressed close to "Thor" which was making himself felt by sending out friendly heat-waves by this time, which soon made the boys forget their gripe over the snow-covered bed in the attic.

In a short time Brita, too, thought that it was safe to get up and dress. She soon had a big stack of buttermilk pancakes on the table, served with homemade butter and coffee for the parents. They ate in silence, startled now and then by the creaking of the walls brought about by extremely high gusts of wind.

"You had better bring in some more long hay and also fill the empty drum with straw for this is the kind of a day when it will require a lot of fuel to keep us warm," said Brita. "You must be sure to take good care of Dolly and get water to her even if I have to melt snow for her. If she should let up on her milk, I don't know what we would do about food for the children—now that they are growing bones and muscles—and how they do like it! If the well is frozen over so hard that you cannot break the ice, the oxen will have to wait until the storm is over."

The boys watched their father dress for the outdoors with a sort of a sympathetic look in their eyes. They watched him put on his felt boots, heavy rubber overshoes, leather coat, fur cap and a long home-knit, woolen scarf which he would wind twice around his neck, cross it over his body in front and tie at the back. Taking the milk-pail, he started for the door.

"Have you still got that twine strung from the house to the barn?" queried Oscar, looking concerned.

"Yes, and I have one running from the house to the straw-pile too, so that I will not get lost when I go out there to fill the heater drums. A person must be careful for you all know what happened to Mr. Herman before Christmas. They did not have to be guided by twine where he came from, so he did not fully realize the deadliness of these northern blizzards."

"Having to be guided by a string in order to find the barn," snorted Brita, "that is the limit, and I don't see why anyone should continue to live in a place where one can get lost between the house and the barn. That is outrageous, don't you know, Anton? Ugh! what a country."

Anton did not answer her complaint but forced himself through the door, picked up the snow-shovel, pulled the big scarf over his nose and mouth, got hold of the twine which he let slide between his thumb and forefinger and started for the stable, stumbling through the drifts until he reached the stable, only to find that the door was practically covered with snow and the flat roof had a deep covering on it too, which made the building practically air tight, and when he managed to shovel away enough snow so that he could open the door he was met with a blast of white steam which nearly blinded him momentarily and he found it so hot and close inside that Dolly, the cow, and Speck and Nick, his faithful oxen, were nearly suffocated. They all mooed hungrily at the sight of their master.

He fed the animals hay and oats out of the straw-shed that he had fashioned along side of the stable but when he went to the well to draw up some water with the wooden buckets, he found that it was frozen over to the extent that the bucket would not break through the ice, so that water for the stock was out of the question until he could let Oscar down in a bucket with a hatchet and chop ice soon as the blizzard abated. He covered the well with a horse-blanket to prevent more snow from drifting into it for it was an open well about four feet square and twenty feet deep, with an iron wheel fastened to two risers so that the rope which connected the buckets could run in the groove in the wheel.

Unable to bring any water to the stock, he shoveled some snow onto the hay in the mangers of the cattle as a substitute for their drinks. He milked Dolly and when he left the stable he left a small crack open so that the stock would not again be in danger of suffocation.

"Here is the milk," said Anton, as he handed Brita the milk-pail. He was thoroughly exhausted and out of breath from facing the gale and inhaling the fine, powdered snow which threatened to strangle him, and shut off his vision, by freezing to his eyelids. "That storm is a regular hurricane, if there are such things as hurricanes on the Dakota prairies. It seems to be getting worse every minute, and I don't believe that I would have faced it much longer."

Brita took the milk-pail, untied the big, red handkerchief which Anton had tied over the top of it to prevent the milk from blowing away; looked into the pail and shook her head, saying, "Hardly enough for the children, but nothing for the cat."

"That's all there was, I stripped her clean," said Anton. "It is too bad that I could not get any water for her. I tried to break the ice on the well but it was too thick. We will be unable to get any water for her there until this blizzard lets up."

"Well, then you will have to bring in enough snow that I can melt and in that way get a pail of water for Dolly for a cow cannot be expected to give much milk without sufficient water," said Brita, "we must do all we can to keep her from losing her milk for that would be an added calamity."

Anton brushed the snow off from his felt boots and clothing into the hay in the corner back of the stove and pulled the icicles out of his eyebrows and mustache, while he waited for the snow to melt which he had brought in. "Poor Speck and Nick," he said, "it will be tough for them to go without water until tomorrow." He knew that his success at farming depended on the oxen so he was especially anxious that they should have good care.

"Here," said Brita, as she handed the pail of snow-water to Anton, who tied the red hankerchief over it again, while Brita stood looking with disgust at a small snowdrift that was forming on the floor from snow sifting through a crack under the poorly fitted door. "Anton", she said ,"I am becoming more and more convinced that this prairie is not fit for white people to live on. Even the Indians do not live here. They know better for they have had experience with these winters. They move to some river or to some lake where they can find other fuel than straw. I tell you, Anton, this is fierce—the buffaloes ate up the grass—they moved away—the Indians shot the game—they moved on, and we moved in to take the discards. What good are discards? I ask you that, Anton Gulbranson."

Anton looked unhappy but did not answer. He took the pail, pulled his cap down over his ears, tied the scarf around him and made a fresh start to the stable. This time he did not have as much trouble getting in as the snow had not accumulated so deeply in front of the door. When the oxen heard the cow drinking the water they tugged at their tie-chains so hard that they nearly tore the manger down. Anton pitied the thirsty beasts but he could do nothing for them except to shovel more snow into their mangers as a temporary relief.

When Anton reached the shanty again his eyes were all but frozen shut and his lungs were burning from inhaling the fine, powdered snow. His face smarted from the cold. He took off his heavy gear and placed the wet felt boots behind the stove to dry. He pulled a new crop of icicles from his mustache, looked sort of apologetically at his wife and said, "Brita, I know this is a bad situation, but it is our first winter here, and chances are that they will not all be as bad as this one, and then they may not seem as bad after we get used to them and have better equipment and buildings after we have harvested a crop of wheat from all the land that I broke up last summer with the two oxen."

"No, Anton, we will never get used to this kind of weather and that which we get out of it is not worth the punishment that we endure here. I know that you feel that you will be a little king when you receive title to the 160 acres of crop land that you have filed on, 'all for nothing', as you say. This may sound good in theory. But I believe that 'nothing' is what we are getting and I don't believe in training ourselves to become accustomed to this kind of weather in order to get a piece of land in a country where rain is extremely scarce and weather so severe. I suppose that you remember the old story about the man who almost had his horse trained to live on sawdust when it keeled over and died. You see the poor horse just could not get used to it."

Anton and the boys all got a good laugh out of that one. "I see that you have baked a panful of nice biscuits," said Anton, "so we aren't going to start practicing on sawdust yet."

Anton proceeded to wash a mixture of snow and dust off from his face, and hands, which had been deposited there by the blizzard and, when he looked into the mirror to comb his hair, he noticed that the ruddy hue of his face had been further accentuated by the stinging of the snow that he had been facing. He observed that his china-blue eyes fitted in poorly with such a dark complexion.

"Come and eat," called Brita, and they all rushed to the table to occupy their designated places. The boys climbed onto a bench of the table, the father and mother each had chairs while little Guri sat in a homemade highchair next to her mother. Oscar, without being asked, folded his hands reverently and said grace; this was one his mother had taught him in the Norwegian language. The plateful of biscuits disappeared as rapidly as the snow did, which Brita had melted for Dolly. They finished the meal with a helping of stewed prunes, when Oscar bowed his head and thanked the Lord for the food, again using words which he had learned from his mother.

"When is Gulbran going to learn how to say grace?" asked Oscar. "I wasn't any older than he is now, when I learned it."

"Gulbran has already been taught how to say grace," said his mother, "but you are the older one and for that reason we felt that you should have that privilege.

The meal having been finished, everybody seemed satisfied. Little Guri sat down on the clay floor and played with the cat. The two boys went over to the heavily frosted window and played a game of seeing who could trace the most that was formed by the frost. There were ferns, trees, grass and a variety of animals outlined by the drifts on the frosty window. Next, they blew their breath on a central spot of the window to melt the frost in order to get a look at the outside but all they could see was the swirling and drifting snow at close quarters. They seemed to get a thrill out of the storm instead of the fear and dread that was evidenced by their mother.

"The heater is nearly empty," admonished Brita, "you will have to try to fill the extra drum for the room cools off rapidly in a day like this, if the fire gets low."

"It is a good thing that I have the twine to guide me or I would not be able to find my way to the straw pile in a day like this", said Anton, as he again put on his heavy clothing and picked up the metal container, a drum about three feet wide and as tall as Anton himself. He had some difficulty in handling the drum in such a gale as he had to use one hand on the twine, but after some difficulty he managed to fill the drum and bring it back to the shanty and by that time the other drum was empty, so he went out and filled that one too. When the drums were full he could not handle them with one hand so he got on to the idea of letting the twine slide between his body and his elbow.

"Daddy", said Oscar, as he watched his father remove his heavy clothes and pull the icicles out of his mustache, "when you raise a crop this coming summer from all the land you broke up last year, can't we, too, have a coal burner and nice hard coal to burn like they do over at Tinkhams, who live over west of us?"

"I certainly hope so," said his dad, "We can probably get a team of horses too, so that we can drive to town in a hurry like the Tinkhams do and not be all day making the trip as we do with the oxen. Getting the mail and groceries will not be much of a chore if we can get a team of horses and a light rig. I don't suppose that Speck and Nick will be able to walk to town in this deep snow, so I am lucky that I have my skis almost finished so that I can use them to bring home the mail and the most needed groceries."

"Yes, the Tinkhams," said Brita scornfully, "they came here from New York state with horses, coal-burning heating stove, gasoline cook-stove, and some money besides, but you just mind what I say; they, too, will be burning straw and Mrs. Tinkham will be going out on the prairie to pick up buffalo chips, the same as I have been doing, if they continue to live on this prairie where it hardly ever rains and where the grasshoppers eat the things that we plant, just like the way they ate our carrots out of the ground last summer, leaving a nice hole where the carrot had been."

"I tell you again, Anton, that this is no place for white people to live and to bring up children. They will grow up like heathens for there are no schools, no Sunday schools, no churches and we will not even be able to get them confirmed when that time comes. We could not even get a child baptized if we should happen to have another one. I can't even find a woman here who understands our language—just Yankees, Irish, and Bohemians. In Norway, I used to enjoy going to the meetings of the "Kvindeforening" but there is nothing like that here for me to enjoy."

"I see that the storm is getting on your nerves," said Anton, "it makes you complain about everything at once. You seem to see only the dark side of conditions here. There are good features too, and one must take some of the bad in order to enjoy the good. I am proud of being a pioneer here on this territorial prairie, and I have faith in its future to the extent that I am willing to put in my time, and put up with a few inconveniences, now that we are starting out with not much to do with. Our children do not necessarily need to grow up as heathens, as you say, for we have the "Huspostil" out of which we read the sermons every Sunday and when we have "Hauge's Salmebog" and "Luther's Forklaring." We have both learned our Katekism and can instruct the children ourselves in religious matters, until such time as we can get churches on the prairie. The schools, too, will come in due time and we may get public gathering places like a town hall."

"Such wishful thinking as you revel in. You are an optimist to have such dreams, but it is impossible for me to visualize that this prairie will ever be good for anything but to serve as a home for prairie-dogs, gophers and coyotes. There is not a tree or a hill to stop the winds as they sweep unobstructed over these limitless plains. When the snow starts moving it finds no place to stop, and in the summer when the hot winds come from the southwest they burn and brown everything long before ripening time," responded Brita with a downhearted look.

"I am sorry that you are so dissatisfied with our venture, for I see things much differently," said Anton, "you know that I am the youngest of my brothers and sisters, and that my oldest brother, Hans, inherited the home farm in Norway, according to the custom there, which leaves the rest of us to shift for ourselves as best we can. We could not get any land in Norway as every little hill and corner that can be tilled is occupied and none of it is for sale. Here there are large tracts of level, farming land that can be had for nothing if a person agrees to live on it, so I see an opportunity here to get something that we can call our own, and where we can eventually make a good living. I see no reason why this prairie cannot be converted into a neighborhood of well-built-up farms with shade-trees, fences and good roads, so that we will be as well equipped as they were in the east that we saw from the train on our way out here."

"We may soon be able to build a new home that has plastered walls, wooden floor, and have the kitchen convenient for you to work in, and have cold and hot running water," said Anton, trying to cheer her up a little.

"Pooh! hot and cold air you mean," Brita blurted out with a frown, pursing her lips and reddening slightly as she tried to sweep the litter from the dirt floor. "You may have such rose-colored dreams. What do you think my folks in Norway would say if they could see me sweeping a dirt floor?"

"As long as we have to burn straw and hay I believe that a clay floor is better for us than a wooden floor which would look messier with the hay and straw on it than the dirt floor does, and then I have heard it said that the clay floor is warmer, for there are no drafts coming through from the bottom as often is the case with a wooden floor, especially if it is a single floor, as is usually put down here in the shacks. However, regardless of that, I am going to buy lumber for a floor in the spring and I can lay it myself, so it will not cost too much," said Anton.

"You can't put that wooden floor down any too soon to suit me," said Brita, her thin, pale lips tightly closed, as she emptied the third dustpan full of litter into the stove.

"Oscar and Gulbran were listening to the arguments with considerably more interest than usual, while playing 'Old Maid,' but remained neutral. They really loved the wide expanse of prairie to roam over in the summer time, and they liked to run in the cool, soft furrow back of their father's ox-drawn breaking plow. It felt so velvety to their bare feet that they would often follow him for miles at a time. They had often heard their father talk enthusiastically about the big wheat crop that he was expecting to harvest from this virgin soil the following year, and they had no reason to believe otherwise except for their mother's doubting attitude.

The boys finished their game with Oscar holding the 'old maid,' and that ended their interest in the game. They next hunted up the prune pits that remained after they had eaten their lunch, which they usually cracked and relished as if they had been almonds.

"Now it is my turn to crack a few," said Gulbran, as they sat on the floor with a hammer and a flatiron.

"I hunted up the hammer and mother's flatiron," said Oscar, and I want to crack my half first."

"Don't quarrel, boys, or I will have to take the flatiron away from you," said their mother.

"He always wants to be first in everything," pouted Gulbran.

"Here, then, crybaby, you can have your turn now," said Oscar.

Anton was sitting by the stove smoking his pipe and reading Decorah Posten, glancing at the boys once in a while out of the corner of his eye now and then, and smiling occasionally to himself at their little bickerings.

"Where is the gum, Gulbran?" queried Oscar, "you might let me chew it while you crack the rest of the pits."

"That gum is mine," reported Gulbran defiantly. 'You know well enough that I found it sticking to the underside of the table after that preacher left who had dinner here last summer, and I am not going to let you chew all the good, peppermint flavor out of it."

"Please, just for a little while, I'll give it back to you in five minutes," promised Oscar.

"All right then, take it for five minutes but no longer. You will find it stuck in under the bench which we sit on at the table."

Oscar hunted up the gum and chewed lustily so as to get as much flavor out of it as possible during the five minutes that he had been granted.

The blizzard continued in all its fury. The shanty shook from time to time with accompanying creaks.

Anton had laid his pipe down and went to sleep in his chair, letting the paper drop out of his hands. Brita took a look at the alarm clock on the shelf which showed that it was already past three o'clock so she went over to Anton, shook him by the shoulder and said: "Wake up, Anton, it is time that you go out and do the evening chores as it gets dark early this time of the year, and especially so in a day like this. I have, again, melted some snow so that Dolly can get another pail of water and I hope that you will be able to bring in more milk this evening than you did this morning. The heater drums will soon need refilling so you had better get started."

"My poor oxen," said Anton feelingly, "they'll not get their drink tonight either, but I do hope that we can get the well opened up in the morning. The best I can do for them now will be to shovel a little snow onto their hay as I did this morning, but there is not so much moisture in it."

The felt boots and mittens were pretty well dried up by this time so Anton dressed as well as he could, picked up the milk-pail which Brita had filled with water, tied the handkerchief over it again, and as he opened the door it let in a blast of cold air and snow, for there was no vestibule or any storm door. He found the twine and made his way to the stable, shoveled the snow away from the door, and when he entered, the cattle greeted him with moos and with tugging at their tie chains. He gave Dolly the water which she gulped down in a hurry and looked for more, and there were urgent demands made by Speck and Nick for their evening drinks, too, but he could do nothing for them as long as the well was frozen up, except to give them more snow, which they licked away at for the lack of something better.

The wind was still blowing a gale but there did not seem to be as much snow in motion as there had been in the morning but the drifts were higher so that at times it was hard for Anton to negotiate them. He managed to get to the door of the shanty without losing the milk for he had handled it with great care, knowing how precious it was to the family.

"Not even as much milk as there was this morning," scolded Brita, as she removed the red handkerchief from the top of the pail, and looked into it. "Did you strip her clean?"

"I am sure I got every drop there was. I gave her a goodly portion of hay and plenty of ground feed tonight so that she may do better in the morning, although a pail of water twice a day is hardly enough for a big cow like Dolly, and you can't expect milk without giving a cow plenty of water – that we know."

"Poor Dolly!", sighed Brita, "I am probably expecting too much of her under the circumstances. By the time you get the drums filled, Anton, I will have supper ready. Our kerosene is running low so if we can eat by daylight we will make it last longer. We may not be able to get more for some time with the roads blocked as they will be for some time after this storm."

Anton looked over in the corner at a large tumbleweed which he had brought home and had it trimmed for the children as their Christmas tree and remarked, "I see that there are a few stubs of tallow-candles left on the Christmas tree that we can use in case of emergency. This is the thirteenth day which, according to the Norwegian custom, ends the Christmas festivities, so we can now remove the strings of popcorn and rosebuds and burn up the tumbleweed and hope that by next Christmas we shall be able to have something better for the children."

"I'll take care of that, you get the drums filled," said Brita.

Taking one at a time, Anton labored with the drums to get them filled and back to the shanty against the stinging and biting wind and snow. It seemed to be getting colder than it had been in the morning.

"The mush is cooked," called Brita, as she finished filling the five bowls of hot mush.

Again each one of them found their places at the table and the formalities were again observed before each one in turn smothered his mush with sugar, cinnamon and butter.

"I am sure glad that you dished up such a liberal helping for me. I can make use of plenty of good nourishment after battling with such a demon as this storm. You are a good cook, Brita, it sure tastes very good," complimented Anton.

"I like it, too," said Oscar.

"Me too," echoed Gulbran, "I like the milk too, Mama, and I hope that Dolly will give more milk when the storm is over, so that I can get my cup filled twice."

I heard you say something about finishing up your skis and walking to town for the mail and supplies as soon as the storm is over," said Brita, while giving second helpings of mush to those who wanted them. "When you do, don't forget that your bag of True Smoke is about empty and I know from experience that if you should run out of smoking tobacco you would be too grouchy for anyone to live with."

"Yes, you may be sure that I will remember the tobacco first of all, and the coffee too," said Anton, for without coffee neither one of us would be fit to live with. I may be able to lug a bottle of kerosene too if necessary but I hope that in a week or so we will be able to drive the oxen to town for the heavier supplies, such as flour and sugar. Those who drive horses will likely have the road broken open by that time. If it should come to a pinch we could probably borrow a gallon of kerosene from Holmes for I noticed last fall that he brought home a five gallon canful of it, as his winter's supply of kerosene."

"Ugh, what an existence," growled Brita, in an air of hopelessness, "here we are as if we were living on an island in the middle of an ocean, with nobody to care if we blow away or if we freeze to death. There is not a person with whom we can talk and who understands our language. How you ever got me to come here is more than I can understand, and the sooner we can get away from here the better it will suit me, and go to some place where people do not grow up as heathens and where one can go to church on Sundays and where there are people who understand our language."

"Oh! you must not be so rash," Anton answered. "If you will just have a little patience and put up with this for a while all things may come out to suit us. We all have good health and with courage and determination as well as hard work, we can build up this territory to resemble the places which you saw from the train coming out here, which I mentioned before. The farmers in Iowa were once pioneers too. They may have had their hardships to go through before they got well-painted buildings, surrounded by shelterbelts of shade-trees and fruit-trees. I am convinced that we will all be proud of this farm in a few years from now, if we will do our part to make it a success."

"Slush," retorted Brita, "I suppose that you have heard the old story about the cow that starved to death while waiting for the grass to grow."

Anton ignored the anecdote, got up from the table, lighted his oily pipe, and went to the attic and shook the snow off from the boys' featherbed and brought it down for the boys to sleep on.

"This will be fun," said Oscar.

"It sure will," chimed Gulbran, "now one of us can jump out of bed in the morning and light the strawburner so that daddy will not have to get up before the room gets warm."

"You are good boys to be thinking of your father's comfort like that," said Anton with a smile.

"Yes, they are good boys," said Brita, "but it is a shame that they have to be brought up where they have to sleep in a box, where the snow drifts in on the beds, where a person has to melt snow for dishwater, pick buffalo chips for fuel, and live in a one-room shanty with a dirt floor. There will be no fond recollections of their childhood home to be cherished and remembered with pleasure when they reach maturity."

"The boys are not complaining," said Anton, "in fact, they seem to rather like it here and enjoy the things that go with pioneering."

"We sure do," chorused the boys, "in a short time it will be summer again and we will have lots of fun snaring gophers, gathering buffalo bones to sell, digging ginseng roots, tethering the cow and fastening strings to tumbleweeds and letting them roll over the breaking on a windy day, and then trying to keep up with them," said one of the boys.

"It is a good thing that you are so easily entertained," said Brita, "I wish I could find such joy in living here."

The boys then hunted up their dominoes which they had received as a Christmas present from Mrs. Holmes, to whom they had delivered milk when Dolly had been tethered on green grass and produced more milk than the family needed. Mrs. Holmes had already won the boys' hearts by giving them their first taste of cookies, a treat which they could almost invariably depend on every morning. She had even given one of them a doughnut one morning, which he divided with his brother when he got back and it was a new discovery to them all. At the beginning only one of the boys would deliver the milk, and then change off, but they soon discovered that if they both went, they would each receive a cookie and, as Mrs. Holmes was a good-hearted woman, they got by with this procedure.

The alarm clock indicated that it was time for little Guri to be placed in her basket and when that was done the parents joined the boys in their game of dominoes and the storm was sort of forgotten momentarily at least.

Gulbran won the game and the dominoes were put away in their box; Anton laid down his pipe, took down the big family Bible with the gold-plated clasp on it, and read a chapter out of it selected at random which happened to deal with a protracted rain that lasted forty days and forty nights and covered the earth with water. He feared that Brita would draw a comparison between that flood and the blizzard, which he hoped would not last for forty days, so he turned to the 23rd David's Psalm and read: "The Lord is my Sheperd, I shall not want." Brita had a rather disturbed look on her face, when Anton read the first chapter but brightened up after the reading of the Psalm and she folded her hands reverently and repeated the Lord's Prayer in unison with the two boys.

"It is about time that you boys go to bed," remarked Brita, "but first you had better wash your hands and feet too."

They hunted up the wash dish and did as they had been told, but eventually Gulbran disobeyed the rules for Oscar was heard to remark: "Mother, Gulbran is using soap to wash his feet."

They kept on, and Brita said, "You know, Gulbran, that I have told you before that we cannot afford to use soap unnecessarily like that, you may use it sparingly on your hands and face but not on your feet". She admonished them in a voice plainly indicating that the request was necessary but that she did not enjoy making it, due to their precarious condition.

Soon the boys were tucked away in their featherbed and they slept through the night without fear or concern about the storm.

It seemed to Brita that the fury of the storm became all the more noticeable after the children had been put to bed, and it became quiet in the room. Anton lit his pipe and puffed contentedly while Brita picked up her knitting as they sat around the stove listening to the nails pop in the walls of their shanty, as an indication of intense cold.

"I know, Anton, that you feel proud of having a frame shanty, but tonight I am wishing that we lived in a 'soddy' like those of our Russian neighbors, for they do not blow away and I fear that this single wall shanty is going to collapse if this storm continues much longer."

"There can scarcely be any danger of that, for I have braced it at each corner with a 6" x 6" long timber set slanting out from the walls and as long as it did not blow away when we had the hail storm in the summer I believe that it will stand most any kind of an ordinary wind. Of course, it would not stand up in a tornado, but they seldom, if ever, come in the winter time."

"I noticed that Oscar needs another pair of stockings," said Brita, as the spinning wheel was brought out, together with a bag of uncarded wool, and a pair of cards. She soon had some wool prepared for spinning and the wheel started humming steadily in competition with the storm, the treadle making a monotonous rapping at the floor with each revolution of the wheel.

"Tomorrow is Sunday so I guess I will shave while you are spinning," said Anton, as he proceeded to get together the necessary equipment.

"It's a good time to do it," answered Brita, as she stretched out the 'tulle' of wool with her deft fingers, as it was being transformed into yarn and entered the hole leading to the spool.

"All I can find is this strong, yellow Kirks soap," said Anton, as he dug around on the homemade shelf which served as a cupboard. "If you have any of that Santa Claus soap left, I would like that better."

"You will find a piece in my black trunk over there. I have it saved for washing Guri for she has such tender skin," said Brita.

As soon as Anton had finished shaving, he filled his pipe again, looked dolefully at his dwindling supply of True Smoke, and sat down to watch Brita spin.

"I wish that you had learned to knit," said Brita, "so that you would be knitting while I am spinning for Oscar will need good stockings as well as mittens if he is going to help you with the chores and chop the ice out of the well when this weather lets up."

"That sounds like a good idea, but I am clumsy with my fingers at precision work of that kind. I can do better with the fork or spade, although I am very sorry that I am not able to knit because I realize that it is quite a job to furnish stockings and mittens for the five of us, when the raw wool has to be worked up into yarn first, and then there are so many other duties to be performed around the place that only you can do," said Anton, as he puffed away at his pipe watching the smoke-rings rise to the ceiling where there were a ham and a piece of side-pork hanging. "Oscar seems to be handy with his fingers, and it is possible that you could teach him to knit, and that would help you out."

"Yes, but you know how boys are, they seem to feel it below their dignity to do such work as is usually performed by a woman."

"I don't believe that anyone around here could have put such ideas into their heads," said Anton, as he opened the draft of the straw-burner, for it was getting colder in the room.

"If you could make a pretense of trying to knit I am sure that we could get the boys started, or at least Oscar, if you could make it appear that he was making better headway at learning than his dad was, for they seem to be very willing to do anything that you do insofar as they are able."

"I have no doubt but that scheme would work," said Anton, "and we might try that one of these days."

"One can eat his heart out just as readily in a frame shanty, as you call it, and a person can freeze to death in either one of them, if the fuel should run out, which it could easily do if this blizzard should continue for some days. The straw-piles are few in this new country and in such weather you could not even find one if you knew where it was."

"Well, I see that you have the spool full of yarn now and it is about nine o'clock so what do you say to turning in?" said Anton, as he yawned and got up from his chair. "I will remove this drum which seems to be empty now and replace it with the full one so that one of the boys can get up first and light it in the morning."

"You can turn in if you want to, but I am not going to remove my clothes and be unprepared in case the shanty should blow away. I want to be dressed so that I can run to the stable for that is so low that the wind can't get much of a grip on it. To tell the truth, I have been scared all day expecting any minute that the roof should blow away, or that the whole shanty would upset."

"What a notion," said Anton, the shanty has stood up all day and it does not seem to be blowing any harder now than it did right along all day. So come on to bed and forget about your fears."

"I tell you again, Anton, that I am not going to bed until this storm lets up, even if I have to sit here all night," said Brita, as she started to unwind the spool of yarn, making out of it a nice, round ball. "I'll keep on spinning until I get cold and then I'll wrap myself in plenty of clothing and sit in a chair ready to run to the stable when the shack starts moving. You go to sleep."

"All right, then, have it your own way," said Anton, "but I want to warn you, if you start for the stable that you get hold of the twine and don't let go of it until you are at the barn door. You will find the shovel on top of the stable roof and there may be a lot of snow to shovel away before you can open the door, and another thing, don't forget to leave a little crack in the door so that you will be getting some air and not take a chance on suffocating.

"Ja," said Brita, as he finished unwinding the spool and then got up and scraped up a small drift of snow which had sifted through the crack below the door. She put the snow in the washtub in hopes that it would melt by morning when she would use it for dishwater. She carded some more wool and started the spinning wheel.

Anton was soon lulled to sleep by the howling and whistling of the wind under the eaves, the rattling of the door and window, the humming of the wheel and the regular thump, thump, thump of the treadle on the floor while Brita continued to spin.

Brita usually hummed happily while spinning but tonight she was glum, afraid, and discouraged. Atlhough her little daughter was sleeping peacefully near her in the basket, the two boys were cuddled together, sound asleep in the box, sunk deeply into their featherbed, and her husband snoring on the bed, she still felt as though she were deserted on this wild night as she kept on spinning in silence, startled now and then by an exceptional snap in the walls when a head of a nail let go.

Left alone with her thoughts, Brita began to wonder if she had not been too critical of Anton for having brought her out here; if she had not done too much complaining about the conditions under which they lived, and if she had not shown too little sympathy and understanding of, what she knew to be, Anton's earnest and unselfish effort to establish a home for his family and to make this a permanent location where his children and children's children could live.

She looked over on the bed where she could see Anton's broad shoulders and massive body raise a big bulge in the bedding and she thought of how uncomplainingly he had braved the stinging blizzard to fill the straw burners; how he had struggled against odds to supply water and feed for the animals; how quickly he had offered to walk to town on his skis to get the mail and the most necessary groceries and of how he had ventured out with the oxen before Christmas, in a blizzard, in order to bring back from town a few things that would make Christmas seem real to the children, even in a shanty on a lonesome prairie.

Then she also recalled that when he was breaking the sod last summer, he would get up long before daylight so that he could work the oxen during the early part of the day when it was still moderately cool, and then let them rest in the middle of the day and then go out again in the evening and work as long as he could see. Also how unselfishly he had planned the spending of the money that he expected from this year's crop, for, according to his plan, it was all to go for things to improve their way of living and to make their existence here more bearable.

It was also beginning to dawn upon her that Anton had shown great courage and enterprise when he left Norway with barely enough money for his ticket and how he landed here among strangers and found work wherever he could, which was mostly on railroad construction, in order to earn enough so that he could file on the claim and send enough money back the following year so that she and the children could also come over. She remembered that he had often told her about being homesick and how he had longed to see her and the boys during that long year among strangers whose language he could not talk, except some of the most common words. How he had been able to save enough money so that he had built them a home, bought a cow and a pair of oxen. She realized more fully than ever before how he must have sacrificed everything for the family.

Brita, in a meditative mood, realized the hardships he had endured. She recalled the many letters which she had received from Anton during the year that they were separated, and how he had always stressed with enthusiasm his desire and aim to become the owner of a place that they could call their own, where they could raise the children and train them to become useful and independent citizens of a great country, where there was space for expansion and opportunity for success without having been born with a title or proper caste. She also remembered the fervor and optimism with which he had expressed his ecstasy over locating and filing on one hundred and sixty acres of level farming land where a man could start a plow at one point and drive a half mile in a straight line without striking a root or a rock. He had compared this with the little rocky slope that his father had raised his family on in Norway, where Anton had seen the poverty and privation that existed as a general condition, not only on his father's place, but the rule rather than the exception.

An outstanding feature of one of his letters was his description of the homestead as to its size. He said that he knew it was supposed to contain one hundred sixty acres, and that it was supposed to be a square of 160 rods on each side. Now, acres and rods were both terms that did not mean anything to him, so as to get an idea of the expanse of his future home he had walked around the tract counting the paces along each side, which gave him a more comprehensive and understandable mental picture of its magnitude. "It is unbelievable," he had written, "that a person can get that much land for nothing located in a country of freedom and where I will not be forced into military service to waste some of my best years."

She also remembered how, in another letter, he had described his emotion and elation at becoming a United States citizen when he signed the declaration to become a citizen as soon as he had complied with the requirements, which included, among other things, that he should be a resident for five years. Such a declaration was necessary in order to be permitted to file on a homestead.

There were so many things that Brita yearned for which her thin, white fingers could not reach but, thought she, if the crops that Anton is putting so much faith in should materialize there would be an improvement in our living conditions, and with a new house and better things to work with her attitude on life in general would change so that she would feel better satisfied to take her stand alongside her staunch husband for better or for worse, come what would.

These thoughts cheered her up somewhat but, in spite of the inspiration that they gave her, which almost tempted her to resign herself to the situation, there were fears and doubts that crept in for she had already heard so much about droughts, grasshoppers, and hailstorms that it made it difficult for her to make a clearcut decision.

She looked over at the bed. There she could see her husband's huge body where he was blissfully sleeping as if there were no storm or any danger resulting from it. She realized that Anton's life must be just as dear to him as her life was to her, so the question arose in her mind why she should be so much more concerned and afraid of the elements than he was, so his courage and bravery seemed, at that minute, to grow in her estimation.

She had nourished secret thoughts of leaving him alone with his claim, which she was beginning to believe meant more to him than she did. However, in her more rational moments she realized that his love for the claim was wrapped up in his love for her and the children, for it was with the aid of the claim that he hoped to tie the family together as a unit for their mutual happiness and congenial existence.

It was getting cold in the shanty, so Brita donned Anton's felt boots, some of his heavy clothing and lit the lantern, still fearing that she would seek refuge in the stable for the storm seemed as active as ever.

The alarm clock on the shelf was ticking away the minutes as the night wore on. She knew that she would get cold if she quit working so she carded some more wool and then proceeded to spin on into the dreary night while reflecting upon the great contrast between the conditions under which they were existing, here, and the more affluent life which she had enjoyed in Norway with her parents, in a large home which had everything that was needed to make them all comfortable, while here she had to endure a precarious existence in a flimsy, single wall claim shanty with a dirt floor. She also considered their physical disparity and the contrast between their likes and dislikes, for he had been given a motive and vital temperament, while her's was strictly a mental temperament and she did not have the strength of the Russian women in the neighborhood whom she had seen working in the fields alongside the men. In addition to being equal to a man at outside work, they also kept house and raised large families.

She was torn between two passions — two decisions — for she remembered what Anton had said about the oldest brother having inherited the home place, poor as it was, and that there was no place where Anton could hope to settle down and make a home for his own family. She also realized that the same was the case at her home. Her oldest brother was now in charge and there would be no place for her there if she should desert Anton and return to Norway. In her mind's eye, she could also see the accusing eyes that would be focused upon her there for leaving.

Pondering upon these facts, she began to see herself as a fledgling which had been pushed out of the nest and left to rely on her own ability and resources, and to assume the responsibilities of a wife and mother, which she was beginning to realize must include sharing the hardships involved in pioneering on this claim.

She recognized, however, that her aversion at reconciling herself to the hardships was due, in part at least, to her lack of strength and endurance which also was a factor in her lack of courage and enthusiasm.

Spinning away the time into the turbulent night, it occurred to her that the early settlers in the established communities must also have put up with hardships before they could reap the fruits from their endeavors by having good homes now, and a comfortable mode of living. Could this be the process by which states were created — carved out of raw material — as it were? Could it be that they, a poor Norwegian family, should be having a part in carving a new state out of this wilderness? Should theirs be the honor of assisting in sewing a new star on the American flag, which she had seen pictured in the making, showing Betsy Ross sewing stars on the original flag?

All these things flashed through her mind as she sat there spinning through the loneliness of the long, stormy night and she weighed one plan against the other, wondering which one to choose.

She looked at the two lovely, young, and innocent faces of her sons. She knew how much they depended on her now and when growing to maturity. How could she leave dear little Guri to grow up without the loving care of a mother? She looked at her husband, a rock personified, who would cheerfully give his all for the family unstintingly to the best of his ability and financial condition. With his devotion to her, and his determined ambition to make this homestead their permanent home, how could she shirk in her duty and fail to contribute her share towards their success, commensurate with her strength and ability?

The spinning wheel stopped; the hands which had held the 'tulle' dropped to her lap; the foot on the treadle became quiet. A new light seemed to illuminate the room, although it was too early for dawn to break. The storm seemed to abate slightly for there were fewer creaks and snapping of nails in the walls. Her fears began to leave her and she felt that she had been out of step when she compared Anton's unfaltering courage with her fears and complaints. Her face brightened up for she was at that moment being unburdened of an uncertainty — she had waged a battle against timidity and discontent and had won.

She removed her heavy clothing, put out the light in the lantern and, without waking Anton, slipped quietly into bed and found alongside of his bulky form, 'A shelter in the time of storm.'

REMINISCENCES OF W. R. PERCIVAL

The winter of 1880 and 1881 was long and hard. There were few people in Northville Township at that time but they had a rough time for the rations were short. Watertown and Huron were the nearest points for securing provisions.

My parents were living in Watertown at that time. The last train that year left Watertown on Christmas Eve and the first one to arrive the next year was on May 22. Three or four families had moved in together and burned the other houses for fuel. They ground wheat in their coffee mills to make bread. My father's cousin lived with them. He left Dakota Territory on the first train in the spring, for California, saying he'd rather die in California than live in Dakota. Many settlers came in 1881-82 and by 1883 most of the land was taken.

In the early days we enjoyed the literary societies that were organized in the different schools. People came for fifteen miles radius, and the school was filled with people each Friday night during the winter. For the programs, we had speaking, singing and debate.

Another event that we enjoyed were the Sunday School picnics. Almost every school had a Sunday School, and once a year they joined for a picnic on the James River.

In the pioneer days, people made many neighborly visits. Some walked for miles to make a friendly call, and stayed all day.

Dr. J. R. Thompson, pioneer physician in Northville, had many exciting experiences and hardships in the horse and buggy days. One of his patients lived eighteen miles from town. The doctor made about forty trips to care for the man. When he recovered, he left in the night and didn't pay the doctor.

REMINISCENCES

At present, Mrs. Iva Harding living in Dickinson, North Dakota, is the only person now living who homesteaded in Garfield Township. She will be ninety years old this year (1961), and enjoys health and happiness.

On January 12, 1888, Mr. Friede, who lived one mile south of Tulare, walked to Crandon that morning, and had started home when he was caught in the storm. He lived through the ordeal, by walking with the storm, but when it was over he found himself in the Broadland territory, his feet and hands badly frozen. As a result, he was a cripple for the rest of his days.

REMINISCENCES OF THE EARLY DAYS IN SPINK COUNTY AS I RECALL THEM AND AS RELATED TO ME BY MY FATHER, JOHN L. SMART

By: William Wallace Smart

John L. Smart came to Dakota Territory from Wisconsin in 1880, arriving in Aberdeen, the end of the railroad at that time. He went directly to the Government land ofice and secured plats of some land west of the present town of Mansfield, and also land that was open for settlement north and west of the present Rockham. He walked to these lands, carrying his satchel, and talked to some of the settlers. The water there was poor and hard to get, so he decided to walk toward Huron.

He continued in a south and easterly direction and came to Cottonwood Lake. He found a piece of land there that he liked, and which was open for settlement. He stopped at the home of a settler, whose name was Johnnie Trezona. Mr. Trezona and a neighbor, Charles Stephens were also from Wisconsin. They told him they believed the two quarters west of Trezona's and the one west of Stephens' were open for settlement. Father liked the water there. They needed only to dig 16 to 22 feet for it, and he decided to go to Huron and file.

He filed for a homestead, a pre-emption and a tree claim. He then returned to Wisconsin, where he remained for a year. Johnnie Trezona also went back during the winter. He saw Father and told him of the danger of having his claim "jumped." Consequently in the spring of 1882, Mr. Trezona, my uncle Will Smart, and my Father, brought two carloads of machinery, horses, and white oak posts to their new home, landing at Watertown. After a week, two of the horses ran away from the claim. They were tracked and caught seven or eight miles south of Doland.

With the machinery that my Father brought was an old reaper that looked like a Dutch windmill, with old wooden-toothed rake and a horse treadmill. We used it for some years, until we bought an old Plano Header.

My father built a sod house and barn and dug a well across the dry-run from where Will Willett homesteaded on the northwest corner of his center quarter. He said he thought the land was too low and he feared that it would be flooded. This proved to be true in the spring of 1896-1897. Father lived in the sod house until he had proved on his land. He later built on the location where the buildings are now.

He told me how hard they worked and how small the wages were in those days. With his team, he received only 50¢ a day for grading for the Milwaukee Railroad. He worked 44 days for $22.00. I do not remember who helped him build the stone wall for the barn, but there were a number of stone masons around, among them were Mr. Thompson and Jim Gage.

Many of the old timers left South Dakota in the early nineties. Charles Stephens sold his place to Jim Avery. Alfred Boyd went to Arizona with his family. One son, John, now over ninety years of age, lives in California.

The people suffered a good deal during the dry years. The little McIntyre girls and boys went to school bare-footed or had sacks wrapped around their feet, Many others did the same.

We gathered cow chips to burn. Coal was very hard to get and wood was not to be had. In the spring we searched for wild garlic, sheep sorrel, and pigweed to eat as greens. Eggs, chickens and corn meal constituted many of our meals. We washed wheat and boiled it and ate it with milk. Many a meal consisted of salt pork, and some of us had beans raised in our gardens having watered them with buckets of water taken from the well. Everyone tried to raise a garden to add vegetables to winter meals.

I cannot forget one experience that happened when I was four years old. My mother sent my sister and me, with a loaf of bread she had baked, to a Mrs. Merrick, who was ill. When we arrived at her house, Mr. Merrick was leading the milk cow from the kitchen, where he had taken her for Mrs. Merrick to milk, as he could not milk. The cow had upset the pail of milk, chair and bench, the milk was on the floor and Mrs. Merrick was in bed crying; I said, "Don't cry, Mrs. Merrick." She took me in her arms and hugged me and kissed me on my forehead and said, "God bless your little heart."

A special occasion each spring and fall was the coming of the Indians enroute to and from Big Stone Lake. They camped on what is now Turtle Creek Bridge and on the school section southwest of Redfield. Several hundred of the Indians stayed, sometimes as long as a week. When they left, two Indian bucks would sit on the board seat of the wagon, while the several squaws with papooses on their backs and small children, sat on the wagon bottom. Young men rode horses. They would put two long poles across a saddle-horn, with cross bars on which they stretched buffalo and horse hides. Maidens and young boys rode on this bar, and sometimes their teepees were carried here.

The Indians seemed playful and happy. I recall how an eleven year old boy fell from his seat, and as he was about to climb back, an old Indian hit the horse, and it ran to the head of the line. As the boy was trying to catch it, my father asked him why he didn't catch a ride with one of the others who was going more slowly.

I missed what I think was the last buffalo hunt in this country. A Mr. Casterline, who lived eighteen miles west of our place, came every year with horses to trade or sell. Father had once sold him a horse so he always stopped at our house or at August Binger's. When he came in 1893, he told Father that a big buffalo bull, two cows and some calves were ranging four miles west of his farm. "If I wasn't so busy with my horses," he said, "I'd like to get some winter meat."

He left to spend the night at Binger's, and I said, "Pa, why can't we get some winter meat and you could make me a buffalo coat like yours?" I always liked the smell of buffalo hide or leather, and thought Dad's and Will Willett's and Jim Avery's buffalo coats were wonderful. That Saturday night, with August Binger, those three men decided to get their winter meat, planning to meet at our house early Tuesday morning. That morning I was up early, all enthusiastic over going with them. But when they left at 3:30 A.M. I couldn't go. They promised to bring me the hide of a small bull calf for my coat. Father and Uncle Jim Avery sat in the wagon to which two horses were hitched. They also had their saddles and provisions for three or four days, and sacks of feed for the horses, on which the other two men sat, leading their saddle horses. The plan was that when they spotted the herd, one man would ride a mile to the right of the wagon and the other to the left. One day they saw some men who had seen the herd near Blunt, so they camped there. Suddenly August Binger spotted the herd and, to draw the attention of the other men, fired into the air. The buffalo headed into a ravine and Mr. Binger followed. Mr. Willett was a mile behind and the other men, having unhitched and saddled their horses, were behind him. The next time they saw the herd, they were swimming across the Missouri River. At eleven o'clock four tired men returned without meat or hide.

The first Dakota settlers had few fences, and in the fall people turned out their horses. Sometimes forty of them would come to our place to drink. They sometimes got into our herd or our horses would go off with them. We found one of ours two miles west of Luther's place on Turtle Creek, southwest of Redfield. Following that, we used a brand until father decided it was too cruel. So we started putting two notches in the left ear of the cattle. By this time, most horses had been sold or traded.

We made several trades with James Murphy, a well-known merchant at Hitchcock, who handled everything — groceries, clothing, and machinery, as well as stock. Father traded him a beautiful mare for an eight-foot steel-toothed hayrake and had to pay $18.00 besides. Bill, a four year old black beauty with white feet was traded for a 300 pound hog. Many a horse was traded for a cow. Money was very scarce. Pastors and circuit riders of those times were paid in chickens or groceries, but very little money. Among the pastors were Reverend Harrison, Reverend Harding, and Reverend Pierce. After the Reverend Basford's revival meetings the Tulare church became Methodist. The minister then came from Hitchcock. My father and mother were both converted during this revival. Father then broke his old violin, as he could no longer play for dances. Those were the days when the Methodists were on fire for God, and with faith in their hearts, they were truly born again. When they went to church to pray for rain they carried their umbrellas. I recall a meeting called at noon and we children were allowed to play outside. At four o'clock the members in the church were still praying. One of the Nichols girls chased me around to the west side of the building. I looked toward home and saw a big black cloud and a flash of lightning that seemed to fall into Hassett's grove. I rushed into the room and shouted, "The Lord has sent rain." There was another crash of thunder, and then the rain came down. We were thoroughly soaked in spite of umbrellas, but there was great rejoicing for God's answer to prayer.

The Methodists also held Camp Meetings in a tent at Hitchcock, where many found Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, and became changed men and women. They were really blessed and found peace and contentment under hardships and trials, cold of winter with no coal, heat and drought, flies, and after rain, mosquitoes.

After the deep snow of 1896-97, the Twin Lakes were filled and many who had homesteaded there lost much of their land. All summer holes were full of water. My uncle John Ball, was drowned on April 1st, while crossing what was usually dry run, three fourths of a mile east of where Charles Wieting now lives.

But we did have fun in those days. My father liked to fish and we spent many happy times at the Balsinger and Nichols homes on Turtle Creek. Mr. Balsinger, having bought out an earlier settler, was not one of the first settlers. Some of the first settlers were Neitzel, Knittel, my grandfather Samuel Ball, Hassett, Stephens, Polock, Roos, Hawley, Reverend Harrison, Fritz Tooley, McCormick, McNeill, Pierce. Lewis, Erickson, Noltie, Willett, Alf Boyd, James Boyd, Lenoff, Sezee, Merrick, Nichols, Bell, Gage, Dr. Hinkley, Olds, Edom, Behrens, Schoonover, Howard, Melott, Friede, Rath, Miller, Patskey, Otto, Buchholz, Schwichtenberg, Hilkemeier, Pribble, White, Binger, Lovold, Holcomb, Smart, Hagman, Price, Harding, McIntyre, Schroeder, and no doubt others, whose names have slipped my mind.

My apologies to those whose names have been mis-spelled. The Averys were old time settlers west of Bonilla. They sold their homestead and bought out Charles Stephens when he moved to Missouri. Ken Lincoln bought the farm that is known as Schneider's. The Schroeders who lived across from the old Turtle Creek Bridge moved to Redfield. Sewell Boyd went to Phoenix, Arizona and later returned to the homestead of his father, Alf Boyd. Another early settler was William MacNeill who wrote interesting stories and poems about South Dakota. He set some of these poems to music and sang them in his wonderful tenor voice.

HORSE STEALING

Just before Charles Hughes was deputized as assistant sheriff, there was much horse stealing in the community and a number of single fellows about twenty years of age decided to do something about it. They had no clue, but imagined that since Mr. Casterline had so many horses to sell or trade, they might play a joke on him. So late one night, they put him in a spring wagon, and took him to a tree a mile away, where they said they were going to hang him for horse stealing. He insisted that he had never stolen a horse in his life. He jumped from the wagon and started running, but they brought him back to the wagon, drove to the tree, and put the rope around his neck. Again he pleaded innocent. For his wife and sick son's sake, they let him go, boasting of the fun they had.

Soon they heard that the boy, who had a weak heart, had died. The father had a warrant made out for some of the men he had recognized. It was said that some of them then left South Dakota, never to return. It was a dastardly trick and they should have been punished, but the Lord says "Vengeance is mine, I will repay." This story was told to me by two of the men who took part in the escapade. I was horrified as I liked and admired the horse trader. He trained his horses so well that without halters fifteen or eighteen would follow his wagon day after day. We always knew which horses were his new ones, for he would tie them to the tugs or to the wagon until they learned to follow.

Some of the old machinery that I remember included the old tread that we used to run the mill for grinding corn and wheat. Later we bought the two horse power sweep. For years, it stood back of the wagon shed and was used for loading hogs or cattle into the wagon. Father hired his threshing done until he bought an eight-horse sweep and a larger mill.

Every year we took loads of our best quality wheat to Mr. Smith in Redfield to be ground into flour. Thus we brought back our bran, which made a bulkier load than the wheat. That bran made the cows give more milk, and that made more cream to churn. I would always try to get a field job or go somewhere on churning day. In winter the cream was too cold and in summer it was too hot. We stood hour after hour pushing and pulling the butter stick up and down. Sometimes the cream would spurt out between the stick and the wooden cover, and hit us in the face or eye. After we bought the barrel churn, we thought we had things pretty fine, but we still had the temperature problem. Butter sold at from three cents to eight cents a pound in those days.

The mothers of that time washed their clothes on corrugated wash-boards. They suffered in the heat of summer with only cook-stoves to boil water for washing and for cooking meals for hungry families. Sometimes the fire would get too hot and burn the bread in the oven black. Our parents told us that black crusts were good for the teeth, so I always ate the crusts. I am now over seventy years of age and have most of my own teeth. Maybe the crusts helped.

Small game was plentiful in those days, particularly grouse and prairie chickens. When I was ten years old, a large flock of prairie chickens lit on our south eighty-acre field. I took Father's old muzzle-loading rifle, that he had made into a shot-gun and poured in a large amount of powder, and packed it down with wads of newspaper, and with the aid of a ramrod, a handful of shot, more paper wads and several caps to put on the firing pin, I hurried to the little knoll behind which I had seen the birds light. I crept into good range and there they were cooing and booming. I pulled back the hammer, put on the cap, and slowly rose. They all flew at once. I fired. The old gun kicked so hard that I fell flat on my face. I jumped up to see if I had killed any and there lay seven nice fat chickens. A couple of days later, I returned and found two others. But what a black and blue shoulder I had! I dared not mention it, lest I might not use the gun again. A little later, we were fanning grain, and I was turning the fanning mill. My father said to me, "Why can't you turn faster?" "The grain won't be fit to grind, Maybe you had better shovel the grain into the mill and I will turn." I knew that would be worse on my shoulder, so I began turning with a will.

In the early Nineties, the remaining settlers had a hard struggle. Hogs had cholera and cattle had blackleg. Hay was very scarce. We cut some on the MacNeill and Switzer ranches, going on Monday morning and returning on Saturday, bringing home two loads of hay, the week's harvest. The wind blew so hard that we had to pack down the hay with ropes and poles. One morning we counted nineteen big steers dead on the field from blackleg or cornstalk disease. Cholera struck several times. Some of the hogs ate dead ones before we had time to bury them. They became immune. Father called them "cannibals," but most of the "canibals" lived.

My mother was a great lover of flowers. She often told of the wonderful flowers in her home state, Michigan. I believe the Lord understood her heart longings, for in our old pasture there sprang up the most beautiful beds of blue, pink and white flowers. We called them daisies but they looked more like "Johnnie-Jump-Ups", or Anemones, yet were more fragrant than these. When the wind was in the right direction, we could smell the flowers half a mile away. Father thought the seed had come with the carload of white oak posts, cut on their old farm near the Wisconsin river in Wisconsin, and later shipped to Dakota. At any rate, they grew only in that field fenced with those white oak posts. I believe that the Lord caused them to grow to prove that He supplies the longing heart with goodness and through his Son, Jesus Christ, supplies our needs. Things do not just happen. Father was a man of great faith; he believed that if we wait and trust we will see God's hand in everything. He often quoted, "A contented mind is a feast to the soul," or "The wicked flee when no man pursueth," or "The way of the transgressor is hard." These were his admonitions to me when I left home at the age of eighteen years, for Alberta, Canada, where I spent several years pioneering.

When we drove from Tulare to Redfield, passing the old Red Top school, we also passed some well-built sod houses and barns. The last ones to stand were built by John Ralph. Others were north of Ericksons. I think the builder's name was Reynolds. We also went to Redfield by what we called a short-cut going between the Twin Lakes. About 250 feet to the right of this road was a quick-sand bed. I once had the misfortune to get into it. I was cutting hay and, riding one horse and leading the other, had taken one team to the lake for a drink. Suddenly my horse and I were sinking into the quick-sand. I managed to jump to a firm spot, but my horse continued to sink. Fortunately the other team and a rope were nearby. I hastily threw the rope over her head and fastened it to the team's harness. They almost choked the horse to death but she lived. The long way to Redfield was by the Chase's and Ford's past the sod houses in which they lived until 1896.

Going to Redfield was a great event for us children. My uncle John Ball, was attending Redfield College, and his sister Fannie was keeping house for him. One day, I went with my grandparents who took the young folks some dishes and furniture. Grandmother was always full of fun, and as we were getting the meal she said, "Let's put salt in the sugar bowl. It will pucker their mouths." I thought that would be a big joke.

Nearly every summer the Ringling or Barnum & Bailey circus came to Redfield, and many people attended it. At ten o'clock, the parade would start, with the wild animals, elephants, tigers, and camels in the lead. It was a sight never to be forgotten. The Indians, who came to the Circus, displayed their wares, such as beaded match boxes, moccasins, and beautiful blankets. Grandmother had many Indian relics on the walls of the old house that burned in 1895. After the fire, they moved to the place where Charles Wieting now lives.

Some time ago I read a report in the Redfield Press concerning the large number of people who voted in townships in the county in the early days. They thought it was an error, but I do not think so. I believe the population of the townships then was much larger than now.

The Medora Cattle Co. used to hire farmers in the eastern part of the state to feed cattle during the winter months. In the spring, they would collect their herds and drive them from Watertown, through Tulare, stopping nights on school lands. This herd sometimes numbered from two to four thousand head, with eight or ten cowboys driving them. They crossed the Missouri River at Everett. In 1901, Mr. Switzer who lived on a ranch fifteen miles southwest of Tulare, drove a herd of about 12,000 steers to North Dakota for summer pasture. I don't remember any large herds in South Dakota after that time.

There seemed to be more species of birds in those days. A small white-throated gray and black bird would fly several hundred feet into the sky, singing all the way up and down. I haven't seen this bird or the plover in South Dakota since the early 1900's. There were many other birds, meadow larks, whip-poor-wills, snipes, blackbirds, pelicans, geese, grouse, prairie chickens, ducks and barn swallows. My father was accustomed to say that when the first barn swallows arrived, it was time to plant corn. They built their mud nests in the eaves of barns and hatched their young there. I recall counting as many as twenty-eight mud nests in our barn at one time.

In the fall of the year many farmers hunted ducks, geese, grouse, and prairie chickens. There was no legal limit to the number of birds one could shoot, but some people objected to having hunting on their land. Four boys were driven from one man's farm. Having in their possession ten rabbits, they decided to play a joke on him. There was a fall of about five or six inches of snow, so they drove to his house dropping a rabbit at intervals. When the last rabbit had been dropped about two hundred yards from the house, they fired a shot into the air to draw his attention. Out came the man with his heavy cane, waving it and shouting for them to leave. They then picked up the last rabbit dropped, and putting it into the sleigh, continued to the next rabbit. He followed all the way, until they left his land, and retrieved all their rabbits.

Every winter the farmers helped fill the five or six ice-houses in the township. These ice-houses were on the farms of Dick Nichols, Phil Hagman, Gottlieb Balsinger and Jim Avery, and in Tulare, back of Moosdorf's store. The ice was cut and hauled from a big hole in Turtle Creek, not far from Balsinger's. Then in the hot summers the families would gather with their ice-cream freezers at Nichols or Hagman's for picnic dinners, or other get-togethers, always serving home made ice-cream. Many delightful evenings or afternoons or holidays were spent in this way. Thirty to sixty people were usually present.

If a neighbor was behind the others with his spring or fall work, the other neighbors would set a date and form a "bee" to do his work for him. I have never seen such cooperation among farmers as there was in South Dakota.

I was born in Tulare Township two and one-half miles west of Tulare in 1889.

Willam Wallace Smart

REMINISCENCES OF C. H. STEPHENS

In the spring of 1882 my father, Charles M. Stephens and John C. Trezona, his brother-in-law, of Ridgeway, Wisconsin came by train to Huron. From there they blistered their feet walking to Redfield. A fellow landseeker gave my father Arnica to soothe his sore feet. The pain at first was severe, but the next day my father could wear his shoes without too much trouble.

My father filed on the Northeast Quarter of Section 27, in Tulare Township, and the Southwest Quarter of the same Section as a tree claim. Trezona filed on the East Half of Section 22, as his homestead and tree claim.

In the early fall of the same year father loaded an immigrant car with lumber, a team of horses, wagon, farm machinery, household goods, and some carpenter tools and came with it to Crandon, Dakota Territory. That fall they built the first house in Tulare Township. The house was one and one-half stories, 12 x 16 feet, with an 8 x 16 lean-to kitchen, when completed it was 16 x 20. The house still stands, a ghost house, two miles west of Tulare.

One of the hazards that the homesteader dreaded was the prairie fire. My mother told of a day when father was away, she saw a fire being driven by a swift wind toward our home. She was with her three small children, one a year old, Gertie three years old, and Irwin, six years old, with no opportunity for escape. Even if she could have fled, it would have meant the loss of our home, so she hauled water from the well and spread it on the grass around the house. Then she fought the fire back and saved our home.

Fuel was a problem for the early settlers. They would use cow chips and twisted hay if they had it to spare. I remember our straw burners. The first was made similar to a wash boiler, only deeper, of stove pipe material. Father filled it, packed it as tightly as he could, then we removed the two front lids of the cook stove and placed the burner, open part down, over the fire. This gave some heat, but was very messy.

Later we had two straw burners made of the same material. They were round, about two feet in diameter and six feet high. They had a tight bottom with a small adjustable draft near it. The top was open for filling, but when brought in for use, a close fitting cover was put on it. This cover was fitted with a stove pipe fittings and by stove pipe was connected with the chimney. These burners were supported on an iron frame with legs keeping the burner about six inches from the floor. Usually these burners were satisfactory, burning slowly down from the top. Sometimes, when the straw was a little damp, the fire would smoulder and then give a puff, raise the lid and send ashes into the room.

In time, coal became the winter fuel but cow chips continued to be the summer fuel for a long time. At times, when the coal dealer was out of coal, those who needed coal met the train, climbed on the tender and threw off lumps of coal. The trainmen did not object.

I remember well the blizzard of 1888 although I was only five years of age at the time. During the storm, father would come in from being outside, and as he took off his extra clothing there would be snow driven all through it.

I started to school that fall. My first teacher was Walter Smith who lived on the west side of Twin Lakes. He had a cork leg, and amused us by sticking pins into it. The next year our teacher was Mrs. Rose, a widow. She had a son, Eber, about my age. Miss Carrie McVay, and Miss Alma Hagman were my next teachers.

My older brother, Irwin, told me of Mr. McClintock, a Methodist minister who came to our place and talked of organizing a church. They had belonged to the Primitive Methodist Church in Wisconsin. Mother and father signed his paper, thus becoming Charter Members of the Tulare Methodist Church. One of our earliest pastors was Reverend Opre. Services were held in the Tulare schoolhouse and at times in a country schoolhouse. I can remember services in our school, with my grandfather, Reverend John Harrison as minister. He had been a minister at Rome, New York, but just "filled in" locally. He filed on the Northeast Quarter of Section 13, in Tulare Township in 1883. He lived a few years on the claim and then moved with his wife, to Tulare, where they spent their remaining years.

Father served as representative from Spink County in the Legislature at Pierre, in 1891. The following summer he moved to Missouri, but returned to live in Dakota, after seven years.

A few of the old settlers were: John Smart, Will Smart, Sam Ball, Alf Boyd, J. Boyd, Charles Binger, August Binger, Herman Binger, Fritz Bevenick, Herman Maron, Bill, John, Ralph Smith, Merzick, Lobaugh, Bookout, Gottlieb Balsinger, and Bert Edom. The latter was our community barber. Most of the men let their beards grow during the winter but in the spring they kept him busy clipping their beards. He rode a bicycle, one of those with a high wheel in front, and a small one in the rear, which was as much a curiosity in those days as it would be today.

I remember another old fellow, Mr. Clarkoffer, who, with a team and a wagon, drove around the prairie picking up bones, one day he took me to help him find some bones. For that smelly ride, he gave me three cents for my services.

REMINISCENCES OF MRS. NETTIE TYLER

I arrived in Ashton, Dakota Territory, on May 20, 1882, At that time it was the end of the railroad line. The hotel where we stayed was not yet finished. It had only lath partitions, so we hung up sheets or blankets for privacy. It was called the Bowman House.

I remember the fight over the county seat, which was first at Ashton. One night some men from Redfield, dressed as Indians, stole the records and hid them in the round house until after the election was held, giving the county seat to Redfield.

I also remember the Indian Scare in Faulk County, and the Indian uprising in the western part of the state.

Mrs. Nettie Tyler,
100 Clifton Avenue,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

HISTORY OF CLIFTON CEMETERY

Eliphalet Lewis and Mrs. Lewis gave the land for the Clifton cemetery, in 1885. No church was located near the cemetery, but services were held in the Bastian schoolhouse. Mrs. Grace Lewis Vanderbilt still has in her possession the original plat of the Clifton cemetery.

(Told by Grace Vanderbilt.)

In 1881, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Barz, father and mother of Ida and Eric Barz, came to South Dakota as newlyweds, with a group of other young folk, to start farming in Dakota. Joe Labrie, father of Oliver Labrie, Sr., of Doland, had staked the claims for this group. They had their choice of homestead, tree claim or pre-emption. They took the homestead and later a tree claim. In the group were: Bastians, Bindenagels, Siebrechts, and others.

They called their church the Clifton Settlement German Methodist. They had services in the Bastian schoolhouse.

They came on an immigrant train to Huron, with their wagons, plows, and household goods. Since the roads were flooded they couldn't proceed further, so Mr. Barz worked on the railroad, and Mrs. Barz cooked for the crew, until it was dry enough for them to drive a team to their location.

Although Indians were at New Ulm, Minnesota, and headed this way several times, there were no attacks, despite the fear of the new settlers.

(Told by Ida Barz.)

REMINISCENCES OF MRS. BERTHA VERSTEEG

In the early days farmers banded together to haul grain to terminal points for shipping. These trips often took several days and the men camped along the roadside at night. The women prepared food for the trips.

There were no telephones, radios or automobiles in those days, but we made our own fun, skating, bicycling, playing croquet, and having basket socials, candy pulls, and literary meetings. At one time Professor King, from Redfield College, gave weekly vocal lessons in Ashton. Traveling medicine shows were very popular. These actors stayed a week at a time and gave their shows in a tent in the summer and in the Court House in the winter. They sold "Kikapoo Indian Sagwau," a tonic advertised to cure all ills. Gypsies often came to town. While one talked and kept the owner of the house busy at the front door another tried to steal quickly through the house.

In 1898 there was a smallpox epidemic in Ashton. I almost lost my arm from infection with the new vaccine.

1897, the "Winter of Deep Snow" was followed by the "Spring of High Water." The Bridge in the James River was washed out near Ashton and farmers had to ferry back and forth to town. They brought their stock on rafts when they wanted to ship them by rail.

Winter was the time for revival meetings in early times. They were well attended and people came from miles around, to hear the Evangelist. At one time there was a Negro singer to help the Evangelist. Besides regular church services on Sundays, there was the Epworth League before the service, and prayer meeting on Thursday nights. In the summer, camp meetings were held in Hall's Grove two miles south of Ashton. Families came and camped in the grove, and stayed for a week.

INTERESTING EVENTS OF EARLY DAYS

by Mrs. Anna Wallar, Mellette, South Dakota

The first postmaster at Armadale was James B. Churchill. Mail was carried to the postoffice once a week by a rural mail carrier. As there were no section lines at that time, the route followed a straight line south from Groton to Mellette. The carrier used a single-seated vehicle called a "buckboard" which was drawn by one horse. The postoffice which had been established on the island in 1879 was discontinued in 1889.

The winter of 1896-97 was known in Spink County as the "year of the deep snow." It started on October 31, with rain that turned into snow the next day. From then on, it snowed every other day that winter, and the snow reached a depth of three or four feet. Fence posts were entirely covered. When spring came, the warm sun melted the snow in three or four days. As a result, the James River overflowed its banks, and at some places was a mile wide. A family living in Armadale had to be rescued by boat for the water was two feet deep in their house. The mother and children had taken refuge on the table to escape drowning. For several weeks, as the roads were impassable, a ferry was used to cross the river.

On November 2, 1889, President Benjamin Harrison issued a proclamation announcing the admission of South Dakota as a state. To celebrate this occasion, James B. Churchill, the first commissioner of

Spink County, hired fifty Indians to perform their war dance, which was to be done several weeks later on the Fourth of July. Three weeks before the celebration, instead of fifty Indians a hundred and fifty came. Cows were butchered twice a week in order to feed them. Besides this, the Indians visited the farmers begging for milk, eggs and chickens. My mother had bread in pans, ready for the oven, when a squaw walked in, took the loaves from the pans and went away.

Every summer Indian caravans of ten or twelve wagons stopped at Armadale to visit Drifting Goose, where they camped for a week at a time. This custom was continued until the summer of 1897.

FRANCIS ASBERY WALLAR

South Dakota Pioneer was Civil War Hero

Viroqua Wisc. – The date was July 1, 1863

The place was an unfinished railroad cut on the Gettysburg Battlefield a short distance northwest of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

The Confederate Army's 2nd and 42nd Mississippi regiments were pursuing a retreating Union Army Brigade when they were suddenly pinned down and halted by heavy gunfire from the Union Army's 6th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment.

The gray clad Rebel soldiers ran into a rail cut. From this protected cut they opened fire on the Wisconsin 6th. The 6th charged the cut. About 240 of the blue-clad 420 man regiment reached the cut and pointing down their muskets into it, ordered the massed men-of-gray to surrender.

The commander of the Confederate unit came forward and offered his sword. He was followed by six other regimental commanders and, for a few minutes during a bitter battle, the commander found himself in the somewhat ludicrous position of standing with an armload of swords and not knowing what to do with them.

During the ensuing shortlived but bitter battle, a corporal from the Wisconsin 6th sprang into the Rebel ranks and into the midst of a vicious hand-to-hand battle. He wrenched the Confederate flag from the hands of the color bearer, then jumped back into the ranks of his own men still carrying his trophy of war.

The corporal was Francis Asbery Wallar of DeSoto, a member of Company 1 of the 6th Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers.

Wallar's action brought him a Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor, one of 21 awarded Wisconsin Civil War Soldiers.

He was also promoted to the grade of sergeant for his capture of the Rebel battle flag.

Altogether, seven officers and 225 men of the Mississippi 2nd and 42nd regiments surrendered to the Wisconsin 6th in that railroad cut engagement during the first day of the famous Gettysburg Battle. Cpl. Wallar, after capturing the flag, gave it to his regimental Commander, who in turn entrusted it to a sergeant who had been shot through both legs and was hobbling to the rear.

The sergeant made it back to Gettysburg, where he collapsed and was taken into a private home.

When the Rebels later captured the town, the sergeant asked his hosts to hide the flag, which they did, under the mattress of his bed.

On July 4, after the Confederates had retreated, the sergeant made his way to Culp's Hill and returned the flag to his commanding officer.

Plans are being made in this Civil War Centennial for a joint undertaking by Vernon County and all Vernon County veterans' organizations to honor Wallar with an observance in Retreat Cemetery, where he is buried. The tentative date is June 11, according to Veterans Service Officer Paul Mockrud, chairman of the planning committee.

Wallar is the only Vernon County soldier ever to receive a Congressional Medal of Honor, according to Mockrud.

One of Wallar's two living sons, Harry of Ashton, South Dakota, last month donated the Congressional Medal to Vernon County Historical Museum. The Museum which is in the courthouse basement here, also has a large saber which Wallar carried in the Civil War and his war diary for 1865. Who was this Civil War hero?

Francis Asbery Wallar, son of David and Maria Wallar, was born August 15, 1840, in Guernsey County, Ohio, and with his parents moved to Vernon County in 1853. He and his parents lived in the DeSoto area.

He was 20 when the Civil War broke out and enlisted on July 16, 1861, in Company I of the 6th Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers, and served throughout the war until his separation on July 14, 1865.

The 6th Wisconsin was organized July 16, 1861, and was disbanded July 14, 1865, and along with the 2nd and 7th Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers, 19th Indiana Infantry and 24th Michigan Infantry volunteers made up the famed Iron Brigade.

The Iron Brigade was organized in August 1861 and disbanded July, 1865. It's commanders were Brig. Generals Rufas King, John Gibbon, Solomon Meredith, Lysander Cutler, Edward S. Bragg and Colonels William Robinson and John A. Kellogg.

The Iron Brigade totaled 7,259 men, of whom 1,151 were killed or died of wounds, and 612 died from diseases, for a total of 1,763 casualties. A total 15.7 per cent of the Brigade were either killed or wounded, with the 6th having 12:5 per cent casualties, the 7th having 17.2 per cent, the 2nd 19.7 (Greatest percentage loss for the entire war of any Union regiment) the 19th 15.9 per cent and the 24th 15.2 per cent casualties.

The 1884 edition of the "History of Vernon County" reports the following mention of Francis Wallar's Army record as contained in a statement made by Maj. Earl M. Rogers:

"Lt. F. A. Wallar, the only soldier who never missed a battle or a meal' mustered out of the company after four years of active service as brave a soldier as ever fought in the ranks.

"In the charge of Gettysburg July 1, 1863, on the Rebel Gen. Archer's brigade in the railroad cut where the fight was hand-to-hand, Wallar sprang into the Rebel ranks, seized the colors of the 2nd Mississippi Regiment, wrenched them from the hands of the color bearer and jumped back to the ranks of his own company with his trophy of war.

"For that act of conspicuous bravery, courage and coolness, congress by a joint resolution voted him a Medal of Honor, which was presented to him in the presence of the Brigade in February, 1865.

Wallar went into his regiment as a private. He was promoted to corporal for good conduct after the Battle of Antietam, Md., in September 1862. He was promoted to Sergeant after Gettysburg in July, 1863, made a first sergeant July 1, 1864, when commended by the regimental Commander.

Wallar was commissioned a second lieutenant Dec. 21, 1864 and a first lieutenant of his company March 23, 1865.

A few excerpts from Wallar's war diary of 1865 follow:

"Jan.1—Commissioned this year as an officer. Had inspection and parade — very fine weather at the present time.

"Feb. 5—Broke up camp at six o'colck and started for the left of our line. Did not get into any fight. Camped on Hatchers Run.

"Feb. 6—Went into battle and made three charges. Lost two men wounded and six missing. Fell back to Hatchers Run.

"Feb. 7—Went in on one more chance today on same ground that we fought on yesterday. Got almost out. The Rebs were repulsed.

"Feb. 8—Fell back on south side of the run and went into camp.

These entries in his own handwriting became very close to scribbling, conspicuously so during times of battle action. Some of the entries are impossible to read.

"March 31—Was in quite a fight today. We have the same ground that we did in the morning. Sherman is on our left and is trying for the southside R.R. Formed a junction with Sherman last nite and we are now supporting him and expect to have a fight before night.

"July 18—Got to Prairie du Chien last night and will start for home in the morning. Found Sam all right and will go home with me.

"July 19—Got on the steamer War Eagles at 9:30 tonight. On all night and found ourselves at DeSoto at daylight."

Wallar married Mary Hall, daughter of William and Ann Hall on Nov. 22, 1868. They had six children.

The "History of Vernon County" 1884 reports that later the Wallars moved to Genoa.

He was elected Vernon County sheriff in November 1880, and the Wallars moved to Viroqua. He served one term as sheriff and they then moved to Spink County, Dakota, in either late 1882 or the spring of 1883. He was a pioneer settler in the new Territory of Dakota.

Wallar died April 30, 1911, at the home of a son near Brentford, S. Dak. at the age of 70 years 8 months and 15 days. He was buried next to his wife who had died Dec. 5, 1898 at Retreat, Wisc.

The Mellette Tribune of Mellette, S. D. in Wallar's obituary on May 4, 1911, reported that he had been promoted to first Sergeant July 1, 1864, when commended by Lt. Col. Dawes, regimental commander at the time for: "The uniform good conduct as a soldier and non-commissioned officer, and for conspicuous bravery on the battlefield in action at Rappahannock Station (August, 1862), Gainesveil (August, 1862), Bull Run (August, 1862), South Mountain (Sept., 1862), Antietam (Sept., 1862), Fredericksburg (Dec., 1862), Chancellorsville (May, 1863), Gettysburg (July, 1863), Mine Run (Nov., 1863), Wilderness (May, 1864), Laurel Hill (May, 1864), Spottsylvania (May, 1864), Jerrico Ford (May, 1864), Bethesda Church May-June, 1864), Cold Harbor (June, 1864), and Petersburg (June, 1864 - June, 1865).

JOHN WALSH
Counsellor at Law
Southern Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 18, 1927

Mr. Roy T. Bull,
Redfield, South Dakota
My Dear Roy:

I received an invitation to attend on June 21, 1927, the dedication ceremony of the Spink County new Court House. I appreciated very much the thoughtful kindness that prompted the remembrance of my name from the dim past.

It was in the summer of 1889, just 38 years ago, when a boy of seventeen, I went to Redfield. My brothers had preceded me there by five years. The first summer I worked in the harvest for George Beardsley on his home farm north of town. In the winter of 1889-90, I taught school in what was known as the Coolidge School out on the James River. I boarded with Mr. and Mrs. David Chase in a sod house. They had a fine son about my age, who died a few years later. It would have been a very lonesome winter without his companionship. In all my life, I have never known more lovely characters than Mr. and Mrs. Chase. She was an efficient, kind and sympathetic woman. He was a turbulent minded old frontiersman with a heart of gold. He had been a veteran of the Mexican and Civil Wars. On long winter evenings, he delighted in regaling his son and me with tales of his adventures, which, in the telling at least, were quite as thrilling in times of peace as in times of war.

Many years have gone by since then, bringing to me what I believe to be a very active life, but I have always retained a very vivid recollection of my four years' residence at Redfield, and, particularly of the splendid people whom I knew there. I might say that I grew to man's estate in Redfield, and I am sure that the environment of pioneer life and the association with people to whom, in those days, the struggle for existence came hard but who met it with courage and fortitude, has had a marked effect on my character and habits of life.

And, now, completion of the beautiful Court House leaves the pioneer years in retrospect and indicates that the country is comparatively old and populous and rich enough to have such a structure.

I sincerely wish that I could be with you at the celebration. It would be delightful to meet the old friends. It comes too early for my vacation. However, I hope that when you chance to meet any of my old friends you will greet them for me.

Cordially yours,
JOHN WALSH

JOHN WOODRING – REMINISCENCES

Soon after the Woodrings moved to Osage, Iowa, the Richard Garland family moved to the adjoining farm where they lived for several years, and the Garland children attended the same rural school as the older Woodring girls, Lida and Mayme.

The Garland family consisted of a girl, Hattie, who died when she was a high school student in Osage; Hamlin, who later became an author;

Frank and Jessie who were born on the farm at Osage.

Mr. Woodring recalled the stubble fire started by Hamlin in one of his fields. This fire went out of control and Mr. Woodring came to Hamlin's aid and together they extinguished the fire.

For a year, Richard Garland, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Dave McClintock, managed the Grange Elevator in Osage. In the spring of 1880, he moved to Dakota Territory where he homesteaded two miles north and one mile west of the little town of Ordway, a town which in the early days of Dakota Territory, had sought the state capitol. On this homestead, Jessie, the youngest child was married, and in this house she later died. She was buried in the cemetery in Columbia, a town northeast of Ordway.

In 1884, Hamlin filed on a homestead thirty miles west of his father's in McPherson County. He later sold his farm and attended school in Boston. His book entitled "Son of the Middle Border" relates his life on the Dakota Prairie.

REMINISCENCES

On Friday, October 15, 1880, winter settled down on Spink County. It snowed almost daily until April 22, 1881. Drifts were from twelve to forty-five feet high. Stock perished, and were snowed under immediately. The meat was preserved perfectly until spring. Tracks were sometimes seen where the wolves had burrowed twenty-five feet to reach the frozen animals. Inhabitants also ate the meat. Hotels in Eastern Dakota and Western Minnesota served it under the name "smothered beef."

During the winter, tunnels were dug to the cattle sheds to care for the animals imprisoned for four or five months. In addition to the frozen meat, settlers ate potatoes, beans and used flour ground in coffee mills. They called it the "Coffee Mill Winter."

It was related that sometimes the horses were too tired to eat after going through the snow, and because the drifts were so high, hay was pitched up to the sleds. One settler said that he walked onto the gable roof of his barn from a snow drift.

Beets, carrots, potatoes, and other vegetables which had not been harvested were found under the snow to be edible since they had not frozen.

No mail came to the James River Valley after December 24th, until May 8, 1881. Christmas packages and second class mail were delivered in June of that year. By April 22, the snow had disappeared and floods occurred.

Everywhere, more water than land was visible. Bridges washed out. Last of the May trains from the east brought anxious home seekers to Watertown from Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, where they had been snowbound for five months, and flood bound for three weeks.

Mr. Runser said the James River was fifteen feet higher than he had ever seen it, and he had lived there since 1879. Fritz Miller, southwest of Redfield, saved several calves by carrying them to the second floor of his house.

Frank Beardsley remarked that he had ¾ of a mile of railroad floating on his farm.

An ice house at Redfield was buffeted by the flood and demolished. The lumber was later salvaged by C. H. Myers and others.